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Dear friends [Loved ones; Beloved], I wanted very much [or was making every effort; or was just about] to write you about the salvation we all share [our common salvation]. But I felt the need to write you about something else: I want to encourage [exhort; urge; appeal to] you to fight hard for [earnestly contend for; defend] the faith [the authentic gospel message] that was given [handed down to; entrusted to] the holy people of God [saints] once and for all time. **JUDE 3** (EXB)

### ➤ **THREE NEEDED TRUTHS THAT JUDE WANTS ME TO KNOW.**

#### 1. God Calls me to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ “the Faith”.

I want to encourage [exhort; urge; appeal to] you to fight hard for [earnestly contend for; defend] the faith .... **Jude 3b** (EXB)

- “The faith” is the systematic teaching provided in scripture.
  - The Islamic faith derives its teaching in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The L.D.S. faith derives its teaching from the Book of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The Christian faith derives its teaching from the \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 2. God Delivered “The Faith” to us, “\_\_\_\_\_.”

...the faith<sup>C</sup> [the authentic gospel message] that was given [handed down to; entrusted to] the holy people of God [<sup>T</sup> saints] once and for all time. **JUDE 3c**

...If anyone adds anything to what is written, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. <sup>19</sup>And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book. **Revelation 22:18, 19** (NLT)

#### 3. Satan is Determined to \_\_\_\_\_ “the Faith.”

For some godless people have slipped in unnoticed among us, persons who distort the message about the grace of our God in order to excuse their immoral ways, and who reject Jesus Christ our only Master and Lord. Long ago the Scriptures predicted the condemnation they have received. **Jude 4** (GNB)

But remember, my friends, what you were told in the past by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> They said to you, “When the last days come, people will appear who will make fun of you, people who follow their own godless desires.” <sup>19</sup> These are the people who cause divisions, who are controlled by their natural desires, who do not have the Spirit. **Jude 17-19** (GNB)

### ➤ **DISCERNING AND DEFENDING THE FAITH REQUIRES THAT...**

#### 1. I \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ (I.E., \_\_\_\_\_).

He will use every kind of evil to trick those who are lost. They will die, because they refused to love the truth. (If they loved the truth, they would be saved.) <sup>12</sup> So all those will be judged guilty who did not believe the truth, but enjoyed doing evil. **2 Thessalonians 2:9-12** (NCV)

...the time will come when people will not listen to [put up with; endure] the true [sound; healthy] teaching but will find many more [gather around themselves; accumulate] teachers who please them [meet their needs / desires] by saying the things they want to hear.... **2 Timothy 4:3** (EXB)

#### 2. I \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

The people in Berea were better than the people of Thessalonica. They were glad to listen to Paul's words. Every day they studied the holy writings to see if what Paul said was right. **Acts 17:11** (WE)

His (Apostle Paul's) letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction. **2 Peter 3:16b** (NIV)

Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman [tested by trial] who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth. **2 Timothy 2:15** (AMP).

#### 3. I \_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_.

But you, my friends, keep on building yourselves up on your most sacred faith. ... **Jude 20** (GNB)

I want you to know how people who are members of God's family must live. God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. **1 Timothy 3:15** (GW)

#### 4. I \_\_\_\_\_ my life to \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” **John 14:6** (NIV)

Jesus said to those who believed in him, “If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; <sup>32</sup> you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” **John 14:6** (NIV)