

Jude was used by Polycarp (CA AD 95) and other early writers. Dispute over its authenticity at the council of Micaea (AD 325) centered on its use of apocryphal works, but its canonicity was recognized at the Council of Hippo (AD 393).

Outlines:

II Peter:

- I. Salutation 1:1-2
- II. True Faith 1:3-21
- III. False Teachers 2:1-22
- IV. Certainty of Judgment 3:1-11
- V. Exhortations in the light of the Lord's Coming 3:12-18

Jude:

- I. Salutation 1-2
- II. Purpose in writing 3-4
- III. False teachers and their end 5-16
- IV. Exhortations to remember and live 17-23
- V. Doxology 24-25

History of Redemption

Peter says that Christians should progress in their spiritual lives (1:8; 3:11-12, 14, 18). He lists the qualities which should characterize their lives and assures his readers that the Lord who granted them to believe (1:1) has also given them all the resources that they need for this progress (1:3-4). The Word of God is the only sure guide (1:19); proof of its authenticity is that it is the work of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (1:20-21)

Christians must be on guard against those who pervert the Gospel (3:17) and so condemn themselves (2:3). Judgment will come upon them just as it came upon the rebellious people; the angels of a previous age, the people of Noah's time, Sodom and Gomorrah (2:4-10). Lest any believers be anxious about their own preservation in the midst of divine judgment, the same God who judges the wicked also rescues the righteous (2:5-9). He is also the Creator (3:5-6) and Preserver (3:7); he is eternal and unchanging in his purposes, regardless of the appearance of things to men (3:8-10).

Most of Jude consists of warnings against false teachers; their nature is exposed (11-13) and their end shown (5-10, 13b-16). These men are twice dead--unrooted and fruitless (12). The judgments found in the Old Testament prove that judgment will certainly come upon all of them as well (5-11). The Judge of all the earth will return to judge all men and to condemn the wicked (14-16).

Jude also calls on believers to persevere (20-21), since they can be confident of God's ability to keep them (1, 24-25), having called them (1)

Questions:

What does II Peter teach concerning eternal security---were the