

**CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH
THE BOOK OF JUDE
JUDE 3–JUDE’S COMPULSION
“...TO WRITE UNTO YOU AND EXHORT YOU...”**

INTRODUCTION

“*Exhort*” means “*to call near, that is, invite, invoke.*”

The word translated “*exhort*” is also translated as “*beseech*”, “*call for*”, “*(be of good) comfort*”, “*desire*”, “*intreat*”, “*pray.*”

Exhortation can be used *to encourage, to challenge, to cheer or to speak with authority.*

I. EXHORTATION CAN BE DONE WITH WORDS EITHER SPOKEN OR WRITTEN! (Acts 2:37ff)

Peter used words of *exhortation* to draw this mostly Jewish crowd to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation!

Every time we give the Gospel out it is this same type of *exhortation!*

That’s true when someone is preaching the Gospel!

That’s true when someone is sharing the Gospel individually!

That’s true when someone share’s a Gospel tract!

That’s true when someone share’s the Gospel in a letter!

Every time we share the Word of God in an effort to affect the lives of others we are involved in this great ministry of *exhortation!*

II. EXHORTATION SHOULD COME FROM THE LORD JESUS CHRIST’S EXHORTATION IN US! (1 Thessalonians 4:1ff)

The ability to *exhort* someone else comes from the LORD JESUS CHRIST working in us! (Vs 1)

Apart from Christ having worked in our lives we are nothing and have nothing!

The best *exhortation* from God’s Word comes from the LORD JESUS CHRIST having first *exhorted* us through His Word and/or through the lives of other Believers!

III. EXHORTATION CAN BE TO EITHER THE UNBELIEVER OR TO THE BRETHREN! (1 Thessalonians 5:14ff)

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IV. EXHORTATION CAN BE TO A GENERAL AUDIENCE OR A SPECIFIC AUDIENCE! (2 Thessalonians 3:11ff)

Here we see an *exhortation* to a SPECIFIC AUDIENCE–The Unruly!

Here we see an *exhortation* to a GENERAL AUDIENCE–The Church!

V. EXHORTATION IS TO BE WITH ALL LONGSUFFERING! (2 Timothy 4:2; Galatians 6:9)

We are prone to give up when we don’t see results!

But with *exhortation* we are to keep on keeping on!

VI. EXHORTATION IS TO BE WITH SOUND DOCTRINE! (2 Timothy 4:2; Titus 1:9)

If it is not done with SOUND DOCTRINE, it is not much of an *exhortation!*

**VII. EXHORTATION IS NEEDED!
We ALL need *exhortation!***

A. Exhortation To Cleave Unto The Lord! (Acts 11:21-23)

B. Exhortation To Continue In The Faith! (Acts 14:21-22; Jude 3)

C. Exhortation To Receive Faithful Brethren! (Acts 18:27)

VIII. EXHORTATION IS NEEDED CONTINUALLY AND INCREASINGLY! (Hebrews 3:12-13; 10:24-25)

**IX. ALL OF US SHOULD EXHORT, BUT UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS ALSO A GIFT OF EXHORTATION!
(Romans 12:8; 1 Peter 4:10-11)**