

The Letter of

Jude



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Bible Study
May 18, 2022

Facts about Jude

Who wrote the book?

Jude

- **The Lord Jesus Christ was his brother**
- **Mary was his mother**
- **James, the church leader was also his brother**

Facts about Jude

When was the letter written?

**Jude wrote his epistle
sometime between AD67
and 80.**

Facts about Jude

- **Jude is only one chapter long, and it's the fifth shortest book of the Bible -only 25 verses.**

Who is the intended audience?

The letter is addressed in the most general terms to “those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept safe for Jesus Christ” (Jude 1), hence apparently to all Christians.

Why is Jude so important?

Jude wrote the letter to warn his readers against false teachers.

Jude writes to help the Christians to be vigilant (watchful, observant).

The false teachers are a great danger to the faith.

Jude: fight for the faith!

- **Jude is a call to fight, but it's not like any other battle cry in history.**
- **It's a call to contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.**

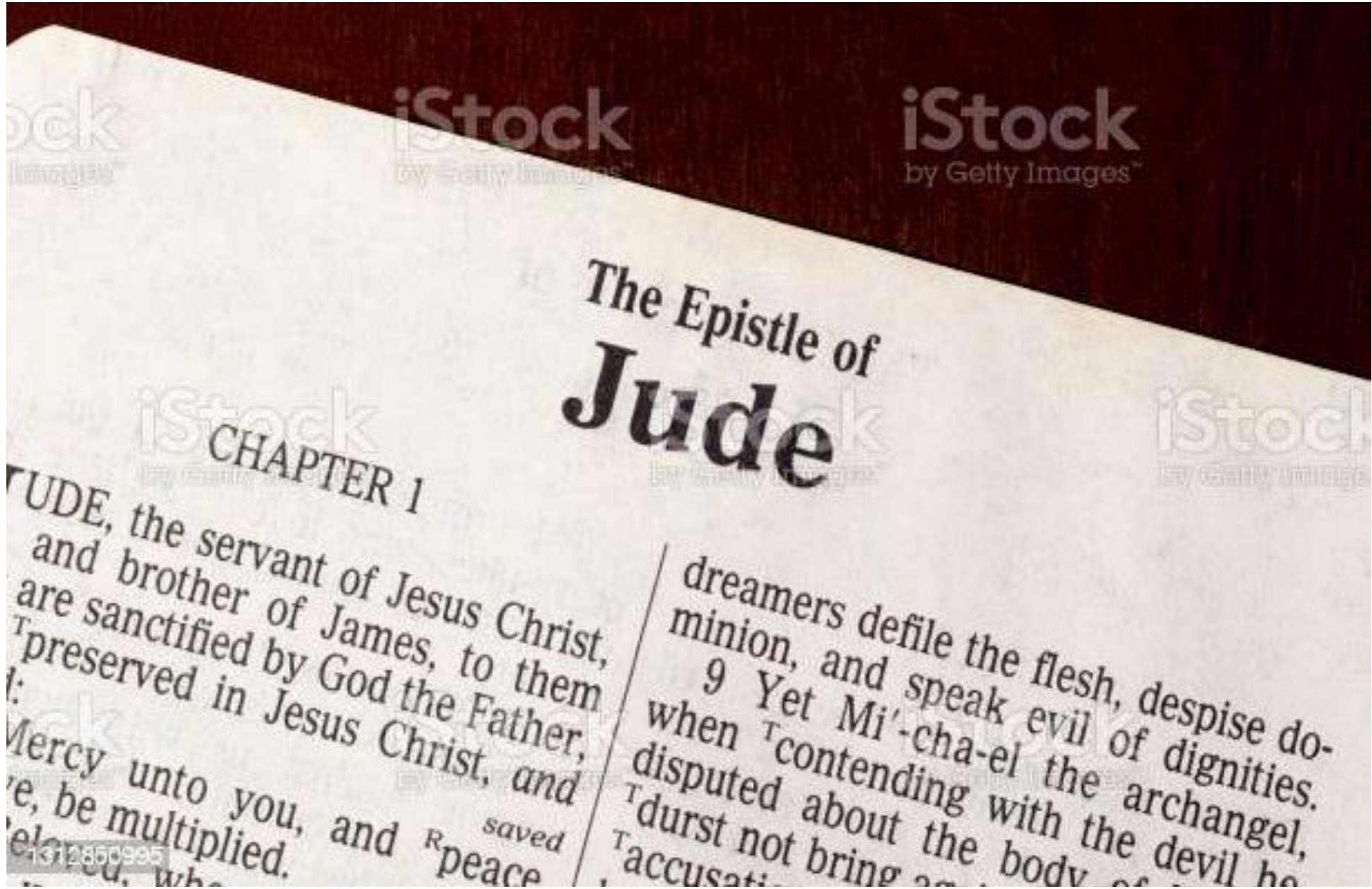
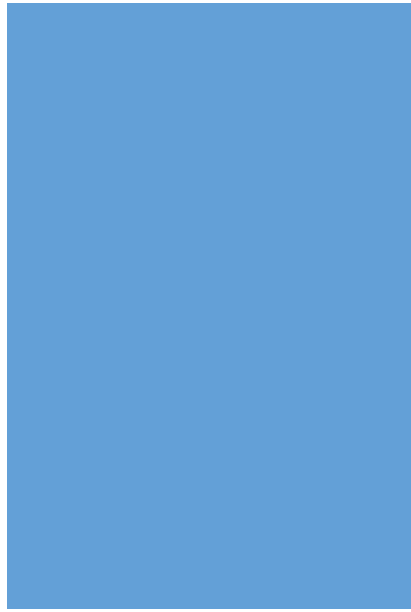
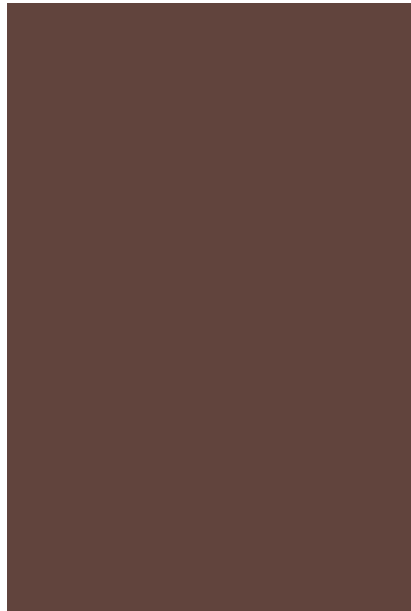


**This is how the church fights valiantly for
the faith:**

by loving God and showing mercy.

Theme verse of Jude





Understanding an Epistle?

- The word *epistle* comes from the Greek word *epistole* that means “letter” or “message.”
- Epistles were a primary form of written communication in the ancient world, especially during New Testament times.



An epistle would have been written on a scroll.

Often, it was dictated and then reviewed by the author before being delivered by a trusted messenger.



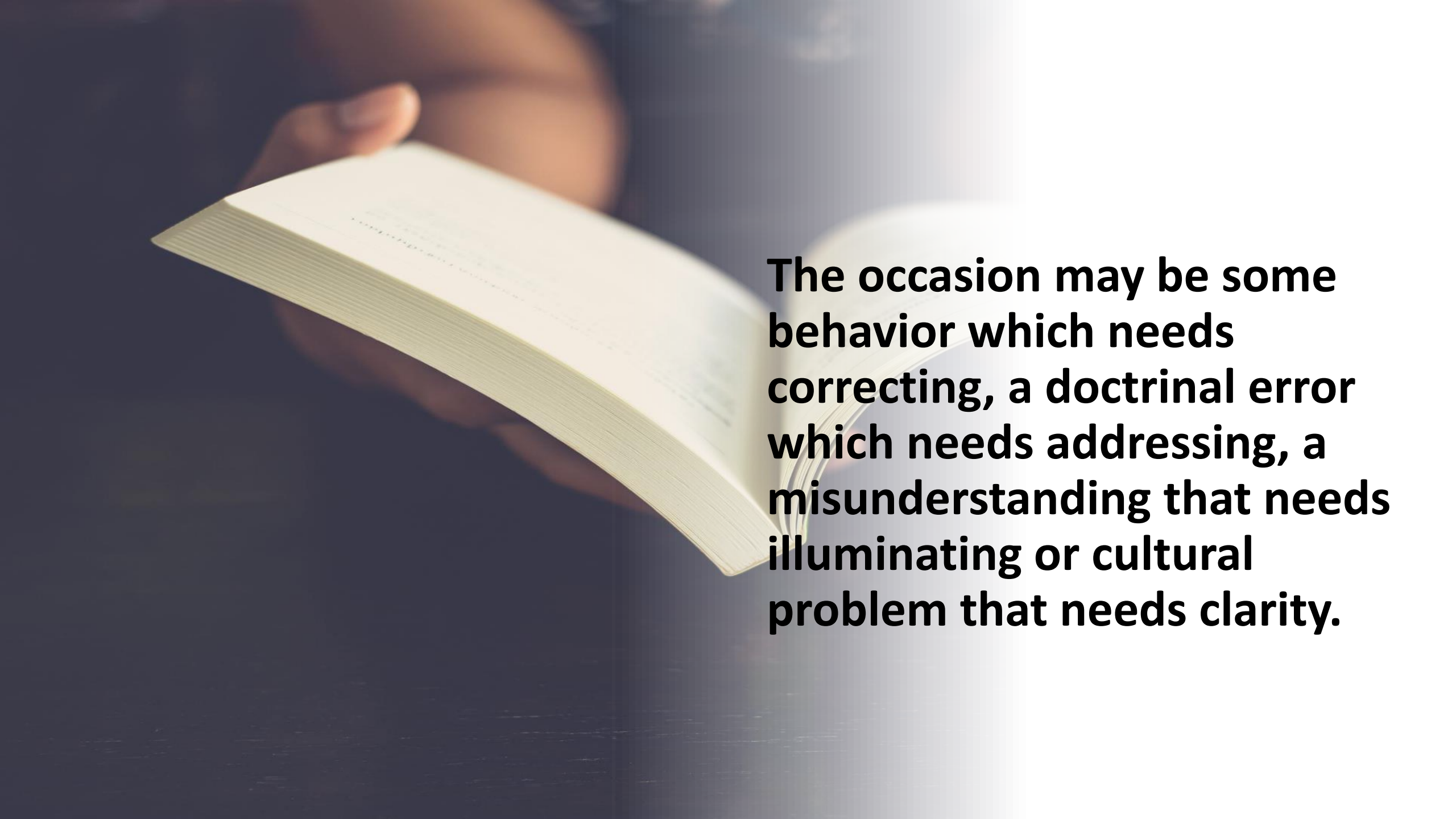
1. Epistles have a format.

- **Author**
- **Recipient**
- **Greeting**
- **Prayer/thanksgiving**
- **Body of the letter**
- **Final greeting & farewell.**

2. Epistles are Occasional

Most New Testament epistles are “occasional” — meaning they were written for a specific occasion.

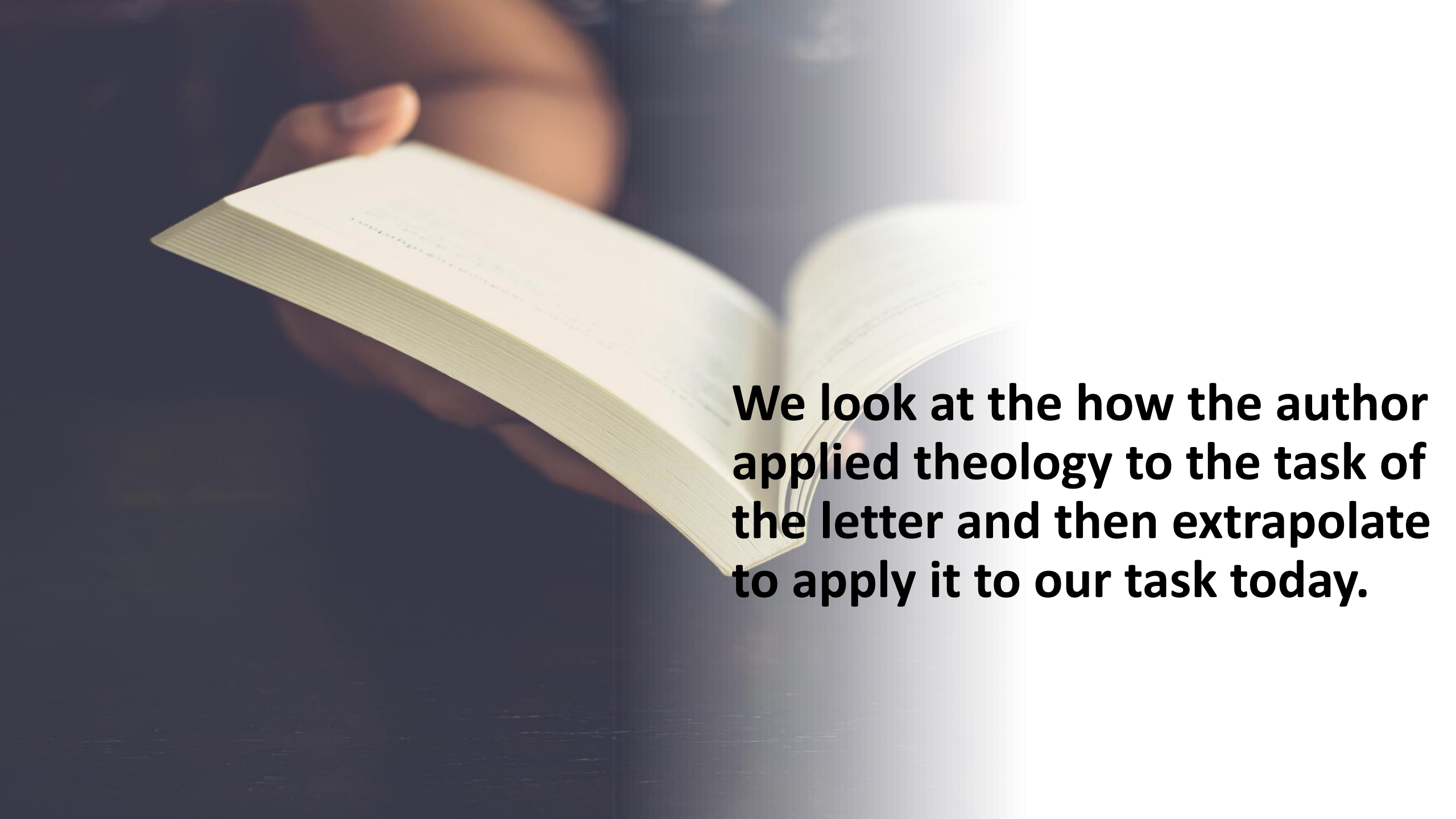
The author is addressing a particular circumstance either on the readers’ side or the authors’ side.

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding an open book. The book is held at an angle, showing the pages and the spine. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white gradient. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The occasion may be some behavior which needs correcting, a doctrinal error which needs addressing, a misunderstanding that needs illuminating or cultural problem that needs clarity.

3. Epistles are task theology

Letters are what we call “task theology” — that is theology applied to the task at hand. We still learn a great deal of theology from them, but it’s a derived theology.

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding an open book. The book is open to two pages of text, which are slightly blurred. The background is a dark, out-of-focus surface. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a block of text in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

We look at the how the author applied theology to the task of the letter and then extrapolate to apply it to our task today.

4. Epistles were written in a specific culture

New Testament epistles were written in the 1st Century by a 1st Century author to a 1st Century audience.