§ ur] FOR WHAT READERS, &e. — [uyrropuction.   
   
 suspect it to be spurious. He is willing to pass over the phenomena   
 in it which have appeared stumbling-blocks to others: its citation of   
 the book of Enoch, its probable acquaintance with the Epistle to the   
 Romans, its difficult but apparently Greck style.   
 9. Schwegler, on the other hand, though acknowledging its very   
 simple and undeveloped character in point of doctrine, yet draws from   
 vy. 17, 18 a proof that it belongs to the postapostolic times. He   
 thinks that the forger prefixed the name of Jude, brother of James, in   
 order to give to his writing the weight of connexion, in point of doctrine   
 and spirit, with this latter great name. :   
 10. But as Huther well remarks, had this been so ;—in other words,   
 for so the hypothesis seems to imply, had the Epistle been written in   
 the interests of Judaizing Christianity against Pauline, we should surely   
 have found more indications of this in it: and as to the superseription   
 we may reply, that a forger would hardly have attributed his composi-   
 tion to a man otherwise so entirely unknown as Jude was.   
 11. The fact that doubts were entertained respecting the authenticity   
 of the Epistle in early times, and that we do not find many traces of its   
 use in the primitive Fathers, may easily be accounted for from its short-   
 ness, from its special character, from its presumed reference to apocryphal   
 sources, from its apparently not being written by an Apostle.   
   
   
   
   
   
   
   
 SECTION II.   
 FOR WHAT READERS AND WITH WHAT OBJECT WRITTEN.   
   
   
   
 1. The readers are addressed merely as Christians: perhaps, as De   
 Wette suggests, because the matters mentioned in the Epistle are little   
 to their credit. The evil persons stigmatized in it do not seem to have   
 been heretical teachers, as commonly supposed, but rather Libertines,   
 practical unbelievers (vv. 4, 8), scoffers (ver. 18), whose pride and   
 wantonness (vv. 8, 10, 12 f.), whose murmuring, and refractory and   
 party spirit (vv. 11, 16, 19), threatened to bring about the destruction   
 of the church. In 2 Peter, as I have already observed above, ch. iv.   
 § iii. these persons are developed into false teachers: one of the   
 circumstances from which I have inferred the posteriority of that   
 Epistle. :   
 2. It is mainly to warn his readers against these, that St. Jude writes   
 the Epistle: “to exhort them that they should contend carnestly for   
 the faith once,” and once for all, “ delivered to the saints.”   
 3. When we come to ask whether the readers formed a cirenmscribed   
 eircle of Christians, and if so, where, we find ourselves left to mere   
 speculation for an answer, There does certainly appear to be a spe-   
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