

The Books of Titus, Philemon, and Jude

Lesson 13: To Him Who Is Able to Keep You -- Jude 24-25

Every great piece of music needs a final chord, the one that gathers up every theme that has come before and resolves it. Jude's little letter has been full of hard notes: false teachers, ancient judgments, waterless clouds, wandering stars. But he does not let the music end on a minor key. He ends with one of the most magnificent doxologies in all of Scripture, two verses of soaring praise that lift our eyes from the dangers all around us to the God who towers above them all. After a whole letter about the threat of stumbling, Jude turns our gaze to the One "who is able to keep you from stumbling."

Read the words slowly and let them lift you: "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy" (v. 24). Think of all that is packed into that sentence. God is able. Not hoping, not trying, but able. Able to keep you from stumbling along the dangerous road. And able to do more than keep you upright; able to bring you all the way home and present you blameless, faultless, before the very presence of His glory. And not grimly, not barely, but "with great joy." There is joy on that day, His and ours.

Notice how perfectly this answers the whole letter. Jude has just commanded us to "keep yourselves in the love of God" (v. 21), and now he praises the God who is "able to keep you" (v. 24). Both are gloriously true. We are responsible to keep ourselves faithful, and we are kept by a power far greater than our own. The believer walks the narrow road on his own two feet, and underneath are the everlasting arms. We do not have to choose between our effort and God's keeping; Jude has placed them side by side, and we rest in the second even as we give ourselves to the first.

Then comes the crescendo: "to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen" (v. 25). This is where a study of these three letters lands, and it is exactly where it should land, not in anxiety about false teachers or fear of falling, but in worship. The whole point of guarding the truth, contending for the faith, and keeping ourselves in God's love is so that we, and many others, might stand before Him at last, blameless and full of joy, and join in giving Him the glory forever. As you read these closing words, let them become your own prayer, and let the God who is able to keep you fill you with confidence and praise.

Group Discussion: Jude ends his letter not with a warning but with worship, praising God as the One "who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy" (v. 24). After a whole letter about danger and falling, why is this the perfect place to land? How does focusing on the God who is able to keep us change the way we face the dangers and pressures of the Christian life?

Personal Reflection: Jude says God is able to present you “blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy” (v. 24). Picture yourself actually standing before God on that day, faultless and welcomed with joy, not because of your record but because of Christ. How does that picture make you feel, and what does it stir in you? How might living toward that day change something about how you live today?

Read Jude 24–25

Study Questions

1. Jude praises God as the One “who is able to keep you from stumbling” (v. 24). What does this teach about the power and faithfulness of God to preserve His people, and how is this a fitting answer to the whole letter’s warnings about falling away?
2. Jude wants you to know that God is “able to keep you from stumbling” (v. 24). Where in your life do you most fear stumbling or failing right now? What would it look like to entrust that specific area to the God who is able to keep you, rather than carrying it in your own strength?
3. Jude says God is able to “present you blameless before the presence of his glory” (v. 24). What does it mean to be presented “blameless” before God, and how is this possible for sinners like us, given everything Scripture teaches about the work of Christ?
4. Jude pictures the day you will stand before God’s glory (v. 24). Are you living with that day in view, or has it grown distant and unreal to you? What is one way that keeping the reality of standing before God in mind could reshape a decision or habit in your life this week?
5. Jude says God will present His people blameless “with great joy” (v. 24). What does it reveal about the heart of God that He receives His redeemed people not grudgingly but with great joy, and how does this correct any picture of God as merely a stern judge?
6. Jude speaks of the “great joy” of that day (v. 24). Is joy a real and present part of your walk with God, or has your faith become mostly duty and effort? What has dimmed your joy, and how might fixing your eyes on this promised day begin to restore it?
7. Jude ascribes to God, “through Jesus Christ our Lord,” the words “glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever” (v. 25). What does this closing doxology teach about who God is and about the place of Jesus Christ, and why is worship the fitting climax of everything Jude has written?
8. This final passage praises the God who is “able to keep you” (v. 24), while Jude has also commanded, “keep yourselves in the love of God” (v. 21). Drawing together the whole of Jude and of Scripture, how do we hold assurance and human responsibility together, confident in God’s keeping power yet genuinely responsible to remain faithful, and why is this balance such good news?
9. Jude ends a letter full of conflict and danger by lifting everything up into worship (v. 25). Why is it significant that the study of these letters ends not in fear or controversy but in praise, and what does this teach about the ultimate goal of guarding the truth and living faithfully?

10. Look back across the whole study of Titus, Philemon, and Jude, which you now complete. From godly leaders and saving grace, through reconciliation and forgiveness, to contending for the faith and the God who keeps us, name one specific way you sense Jesus has formed you through these letters. What is the single truth you most want to carry forward from this study?

Now or Later

Reflect on these passages: Romans 16:25–27, glory to God who is able to strengthen you, a parallel doxology; Philippians 1:6, He who began a good work will bring it to completion; 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24, the God of peace who will keep you blameless, and He is faithful; Colossians 1:21–23, presented holy and blameless if you continue in the faith; Ephesians 3:20–21, to Him who is able to do far more than we ask, be glory forever.