

THE LETTER FROM JUDE

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THE ONE WHO KEEPS YOU

THE FINAL OUTCOME OF YOUR FATIH

*But you, dear friends,  
build yourselves up in your most holy faith,  
and pray in the Holy Spirit.*

*Keep yourselves in God's love  
as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ  
to bring you to eternal life.*

*Be merciful to those who doubt,  
snatch others from the fire and save them;  
to others show mercy, mixed with fear,  
hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.*

JUDE 20-23

*To Him who is able to keep you from falling  
and to present you before His glorious presence  
without fault and with great joy—  
to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
before all ages, now and forevermore!*

*Amen.*

JUDE 24-25

*Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more*

*than all we ask or imagine*

*according to His power at work within us,*

*to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus*

*throughout all generations,*

*for ever and ever!*

*Amen.*

EPHESIANS 3.20-21

- ▶ doxology - (*doxa: glory*): a liturgical expression of praise to God
- ▶ eschatology - (*eschata*): the doctrine of “last things” in relation to either human individuals (death, resurrection, judgment, the afterlife) or the world (prophetic events and their fulfillment, the Day of the Lord, the consummation of God’s purposes in Christ)

*And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their proper dwelling—these He has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.*

*Keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.*

## THE PROBABILITY OF FALLING

*For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. . . . So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. . . . What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?*

ROMANS 7.19, 21, 24

- ▶ Only a foolish Christian neglects the work of building up their commitment to Christ and maintaining a lifestyle of Spirit-enabled prayer (cf. Matthew 25.1-4). We are inherently unspiritual and our adversary relentlessly exploits our self-oriented inclinations. Jude has made it clear that anyone can be led astray and fall into judgment.

## KEPT FROM FALLING

*To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy . . .*

JUDE 24

- ▶ This is the third time that Jude emphasizes “keep”–
  - ▶ “*kept by Jesus Christ*” (v. 1)
  - ▶ “*Keep yourselves in God’s love*” (v. 21)
  - ▶ “*To Him who is able to keep you*” (v. 24)
- ▶ Do I keep myself or does Christ keep me?

*Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

PHILIPPIANS 1.6

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—  
not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—  
continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,  
for it is God who works in you to will and to act  
in order to fulfill His good purpose.*

PHILIPPIANS 2.12-13

*And we know that in all things  
God works for the good of those who love Him,  
who have been called according to His purpose.*

*For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed  
to the image of His Son, that he might be the firstborn  
among many brothers and sisters.*

*And those He predestined, He also called; *Brought to faith in Christ*  
those He called, He also justified; *Declared righteous in Christ*  
those He justified, He also glorified. *Transformed to be like Christ**

## GOD'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE FOR MY LIFE

*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

GALATIANS 2.20

- ▶ Am I being “conformed to the image of Christ”? Ask yourself–
  - ▶ Am I truly *following* Christ?
  - ▶ Am I *becoming* more and more like Christ?
  - ▶ Am I *doing the works* of Christ?

## ENABLED BY THE SPIRIT

*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.*

JOHN 16.13-14

*Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.* ROMANS 8.5

*For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.* ROMANS 8.13

*In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.* ROMANS 8.26

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.*

HEBREWS 10.24-27

*For this very reason (to participate in God's divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by ungodly desires),*

*make every effort to add to your faith goodness;*

*and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control;*

*and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;*

*and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.*

*For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.*

*Therefore, my brothers and sisters, **make every effort**  
to confirm your calling and election.*

*For if you do these things, you will never stumble,  
and you will receive a rich welcome into the  
eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

2 PETER 1.10-11

*Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:*

*“Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.*

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory!*

*For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.*

*Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.”*

*(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)*

*Then the angel said to me, “Write this:*

*Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!”*

*And he added, “These are the true words of God.”*

*To Him who is able to keep you from falling  
and to present you before His glorious presence  
without fault and with great joy—  
to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
before all ages, now and forevermore!  
Amen.*

JUDE 24-25