

## The Last Sunday after Epiphany ~ Sunday, February 19, 2023

### “Contend For the Faith: A Study Through the Book of Jude ~

#### Doxology”

Jude 1:17-25

### INTRODUCTION

In verses 1 to 16, Jude sounds the alarm, and shows us the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the false teachers and the dreadful consequences of believing their message. Last Sunday, we looked at verses 17-23 and three \_\_\_\_\_ that we can use to combat the enemy:

Jude doesn't end his letter with a call to arms, more \_\_\_\_\_ about the enemy, or a list of instructions on how best to fight the good fight.

I suspect that's because he knows this isn't the best way to \_\_\_\_\_ the troops. If we're going to march confidently into the spiritual battle, we need to know about the \_\_\_\_\_ weapon that believers have that the enemy does not.

We need to know that the war we fight is a war we can't \_\_\_\_\_ because the One who fights with us (and for us) has already \_\_\_\_\_.

Jude directs our \_\_\_\_\_ away from ourselves and away from our enemy—away from the Battle—and calls us to fix it firmly on \_\_\_\_\_, who is, according to Hebrews 12:2; “...the Author and Finisher/Perfecter of our faith.”

That's why Jude concludes this letter not with a warning, but rather with a \_\_\_\_\_ =

### 3 KEY THEMES IN JUDE'S SONG OF PRAISE

**Theme #1:** \_\_\_\_\_.

“the only God, our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time now and forever.” (25)

Doxology or song of praise =

Jude bursts into song, and calls us to face the spiritual conflict with \_\_\_\_\_, to praise God and sing while the battle rages around us.

### 4 ELEMENTS OF GOD'S CHARACTER

• **God's \_\_\_\_\_ is adored: “Now to Him...the only God.”**  
There is no other God like our God; He is, unique, wholly other, and \_\_\_\_\_ above all creatures.

• **God's role as \_\_\_\_\_ is celebrated: “The only God, our Saviour.”**  
By \_\_\_\_\_, God has rescued us, forgiven us, and made us His children.

• **God's \_\_\_\_\_ is acknowledged:**  
“glory and majesty” = the greatness of God's \_\_\_\_\_.  
“dominion and authority” = the greatness of His \_\_\_\_\_.

• **God's transcendence or otherness are praised: “before all time, now and forever.”**

Jude is a \_\_\_\_\_ letter that confronts us with some hard realities as we seek to live the Christian life.

Jude looks up from the fray and sees the \_\_\_\_\_, Himself, the true and final Victor. He looks away from the wicked and from struggling believers to a holy, \_\_\_\_\_, and loving God.

“I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:1)

Fill your whole \_\_\_\_\_ with God. \_\_\_\_\_ Him perfect in holiness and explore how that perfect holiness, through the finished work of Jesus on the cross, makes you an object of unending, eternal \_\_\_\_\_.

**Theme #2:** \_\_\_\_\_.

the second theme in this doxology has to do with God's \_\_\_\_\_ in the lives of His people as we struggle to be faithful.

“Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling.” (Jude 1:24)

Sometimes when we find ourselves in the midst of \_\_\_\_\_—especially if it's something that constantly trips us up—we can wonder if there's any \_\_\_\_\_ that we'll ever conquer it.

Stumbling into sin and error isn't an \_\_\_\_\_ that those of us who trust in Christ need to be \_\_\_\_\_ to.

The Gospel is good news not just because we can be \_\_\_\_\_, but because we can be \_\_\_\_\_ as well—into nothing less than the very likeness of \_\_\_\_\_.

“And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

The same cross that won our \_\_\_\_\_, also won our \_\_\_\_\_!

Yet the truth is, if we are in-Christ, sin no longer has the same \_\_\_\_\_ over us.

No matter what strategy or danger the false teachers might pose, we are \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ and kept from stumbling by the God who is more than \_\_\_\_\_.

Thankfully, we’re the \_\_\_\_\_ of this verse and not the \_\_\_\_\_. God is the subject—only He is able to keep us from stumbling!

**Theme #3:** \_\_\_\_\_.

“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, to the only God, our Saviour, be glory...” (Jude 1:24)

God is able not just to keep us from stumbling, but also to present us \_\_\_\_\_.

Present =

God will keep us from falling and He will \_\_\_\_\_ before His glory.

Know that Jesus bled and died for you; that He is able to \_\_\_\_\_ your guilt away, and \_\_\_\_\_ you now and forever

“Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.” (Isaiah 1:18)

Jude is also telling us that if we’re \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus, one day shame and guilt will be things of the past—one day when we stand before the presence of His glory we’ll do so \_\_\_\_\_.

The glory of God is beyond our \_\_\_\_\_.

However, one day...you, believer in Jesus, little you, will stand before that glory \_\_\_\_\_ and blameless—face to face!  
You will not be \_\_\_\_\_.

No matter how small we might feel our progress in \_\_\_\_\_ is right now, no matter how \_\_\_\_\_ and ingrained our sin may be right now, when it comes time at last to stand before the presence of God’s glory, if we do so \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ, we’ll be found blameless in His sight.

## CONCLUSION

Jude sings because he looks up from the field of battle to the God who reigns, and he sees all God’s \_\_\_\_\_ power mobilized in service of our preservation and the final presentation of our life before the presence of His glory, blameless at last. And he can’t help, but sing.

How we need to lift up our \_\_\_\_\_ from our hard fought spiritual battle and the struggles of everyday life. How we need to raise our heads, so often cast down by our own \_\_\_\_\_ and challenges, and look to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord...and to know His \_\_\_\_\_ to keep us, preserve us, and secure us until that great day, fast approaching, when He will bring us \_\_\_\_\_ and the work will be done and we’ll look like a perfect reflection of the very image of Jesus Himself!

If we look to that \_\_\_\_\_, we’ll not only find strength and encouragement to fight-on when the battle gets hot, but we’ll also be able to actually sing praises as we press on with \_\_\_\_\_ strength and zeal.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES