

*Behold, the Glory, Grace, and Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ*

December 13, 2020

Jude 1:24-25

**Everyone is celebrating something or someone  
Who and or what are you celebrating?  
Who and or what is your life prizing/ treasuring?**

**Let's Pray**

**T/S: Today we will finish the book of Jude  
Let's first look at the context**

**This letter is a warning against false teachers and apostasy  
Christians are commanded to contend for the faith and the  
family of God**

**v4-16 False teachers creep into the church to divide and  
defile it**

**They corrupt Christ' words and criticize His children  
(especially the church leaders)**

**Their condemnation is certain**

**v17 The loved by the Lord listen to the Lord**

**vv20-23 Construct, communicate, keep His commands,  
consider His coming, and compassionately contend**

**Though the world, the flesh, and the devil pose a real threat against the Christian's worship**

**Thanks be to God who gives the victory through Jesus**

**Victory through a surrendered life of faithful celebration**

**Jude 1:24-25 *Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, 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.***

### **Big Idea/ Timeless Truth**

**Christians are called, commanded, and commissioned to celebrate Christ continually**

**Christians are not fare weather fans but faithful followers who celebrate Christ continually in a chaotic, confused, and corrupt culture**

**Explain what celebrating is and what it is not**

**T/S: I want to lay before you where we are going today**

- I. The Promised Power of God (the How)**
- II. The Promised Presence of God (the Why)**
- III. The Perpetual Praise of God (the When)**

**T/S: vv20-23 Instructions on how to contend for the faith  
vv24-25 Jude burst into a statement of praise**

**Celebrating Christ is not contrary to contending**

**Christ like celebration is at the heart of biblical contention**

**Let's take a close look at verse 24**

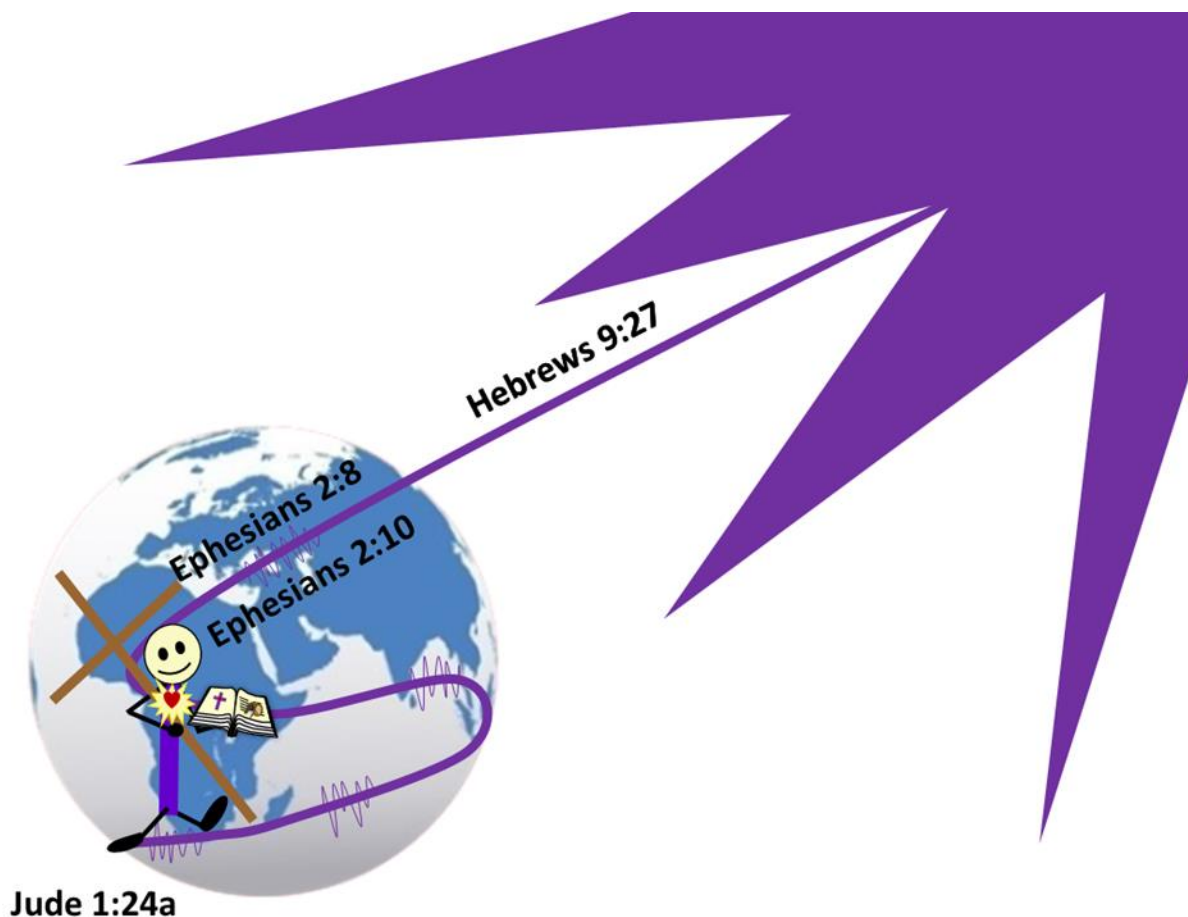
## **I. The Promised Power of God (Jude 1:24a)**

***Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling***

### **A. Christ keeps Christians from corruption**

#### **i. Praise Christ for spiritual preservation**

## Diagram #1



Now let me direct your attention to the mighty Messiah

Christ will *keep you* like a military guard

*from stumbling*- from falling into sin

Mighty to exercise unbroken, uninterrupted vigilance in keeping Christians from yielding to temptations and from fulfilling the lusts of the flesh

This is not a statement of sinless perfection but of a pattern of passionate faithful obedience to Christ

**The steadfast perseverance of the Christian is enabled by the sovereign preservation and grace of God (Jeremiah 32:40)**

**How? In Christ, the Christian desires to do God's will. With a new heart, he finds that serving God is his greatest joy**

**By the power of the Spirit, Christians are kept from stumbling and celebrate Christ continually (Heb. 13:21)**

**Why are you still a Christian?**

**Tempted to sin & God provided a way of escape/ helped you to do His will/ stumbled, repented, and were joyfully restored to Christ? Christ kept you**

**Felt like you couldn't hold onto God any longer? Kept**

**Struck by a tragedy and God brought you closer to Himself than ever before? Christ kept you**

**Hit by some false teaching or personal attack and God comforted you through His Spirit and Word? Kept**

**God keeps His children by His Spirit through His word, prayer, Christians, and circumstances**

**So, praise God for making and keeping you a Christian**

**T/S Being kept from stumbling is the fruit of salvation**  
**If the Holy Spirit is in you, then God will also *make you to stand before the presence of His glory blameless with great joy***

## **II. The Promised Presence of God (Jude 1:24b)**

**Christian, you have an imperishable inheritance kept in heaven. You are promised the presence of God**

***and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy***

### **A. Christ keeps His children from condemnation**

#### **i. Praise Christ for pardon and imputed perfection**

***and to make you stand***- to set one, establish, hold up

**God is the decisive and causal agent in making you stand**

***in the presence of His glory***- in His very full presence; before the very face of God; in His concentrated gaze

**Although right now we can't see God, He graciously gives Christians this wonderful and eternal promise of His presence**

***of His glory***- one day Christian, you will stand and live in the very full presence of His perfection and beauty

***Blameless-*** stand without fault before God

**How can God who is just forgive wicked sinners while maintaining His justice?**

**Christ was made a sacrifice for sin that His people might be made righteous in the sight of God**

**Christians are accepted and treated as righteous by God on account of Jesus' perfect obedience**

**At the cross, Christ was treated as if he were a sinner, though he was perfectly holy and pure**

**Christians are treated as if they had entirely fulfilled the Law of God and had never become exposed to its penalty**

**Jesus voluntarily suffers for the guilty, and the guilty are thus made pure and holy, and are saved**

**As the Husband, Christ takes what is ours (sin, death, and condemnation) and gives what is His (grace, life, salvation)**

**This is the glory, grace, and Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and this is why Christians celebrate Christ continually**

***with great joy-***to have exultation as of those who leap for joy

**Rejoicing in salvation and most supremely in his Savior**

**Great future joy enables the Christian to rejoice right now because he knows God and knows He is faithful to His word**

**Hebrews 12:2- *For the joy set before Him He endured the cross***

**Jesus persevered so that He might receive the joy of accomplishment of the Father's will and exaltation**

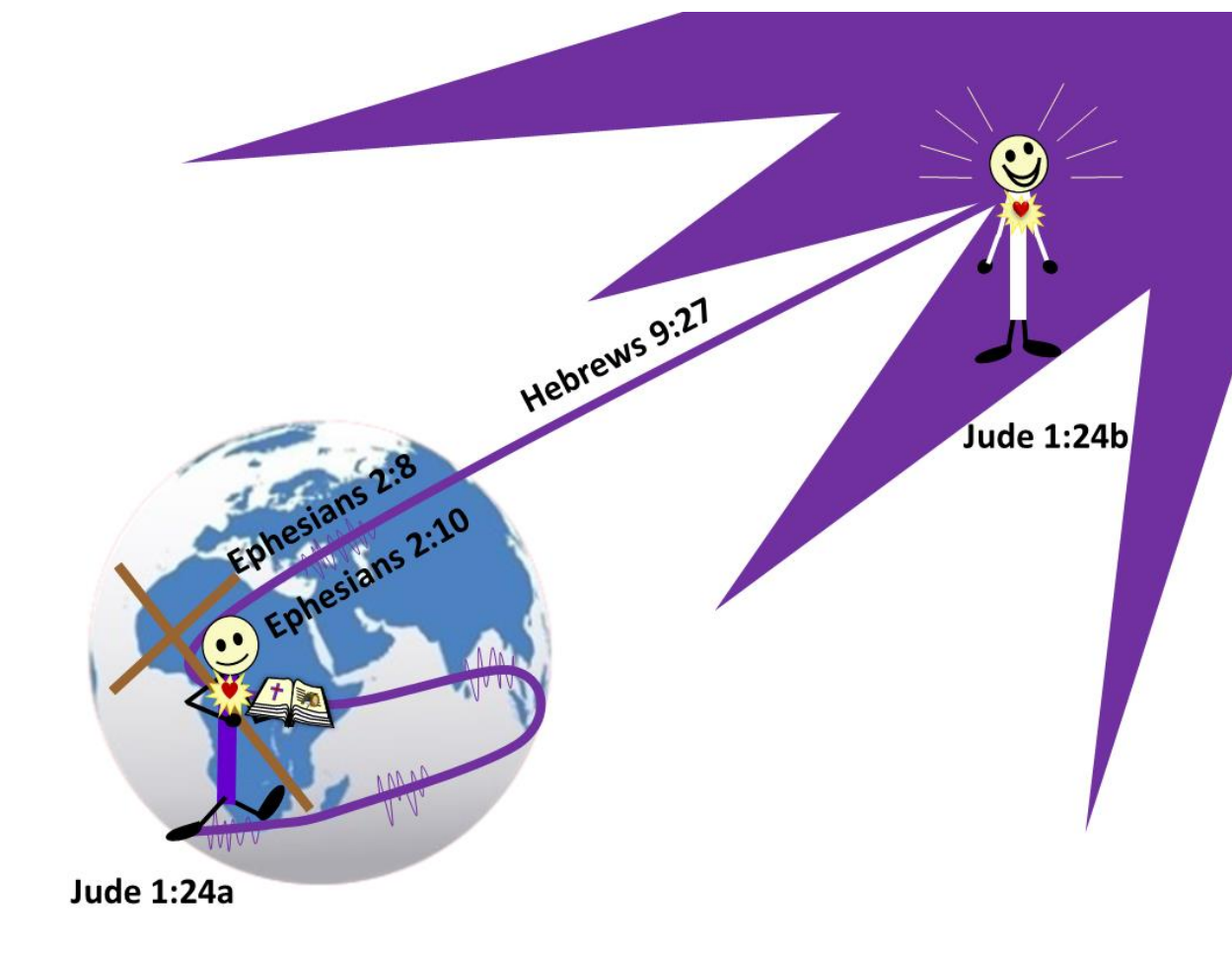
**He has a great and triumphant joy as He safely brings each Christian into His heavenly kingdom**

**This promise sets Christians free from guilt and shame and the fear of death so that they may wholly and freely worship, love, and be loved by Jesus w/o the fear of being forsaken**

**The cross encourages Christians to no longer live for that which Christ died for and to live for His glory**



## Diagram #2



**If you lay hold of the promise of 24b then 24a should be a reality in your life. There is no separation**

**T/S Let's move forward to our last and final point**

### **III. The Perpetual Praise of God (Jude 1:25)**

**We have looked at His actions and now we will look at His attributes**

**Like listening to the most beautiful song then being introduced to the song writer**

*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*

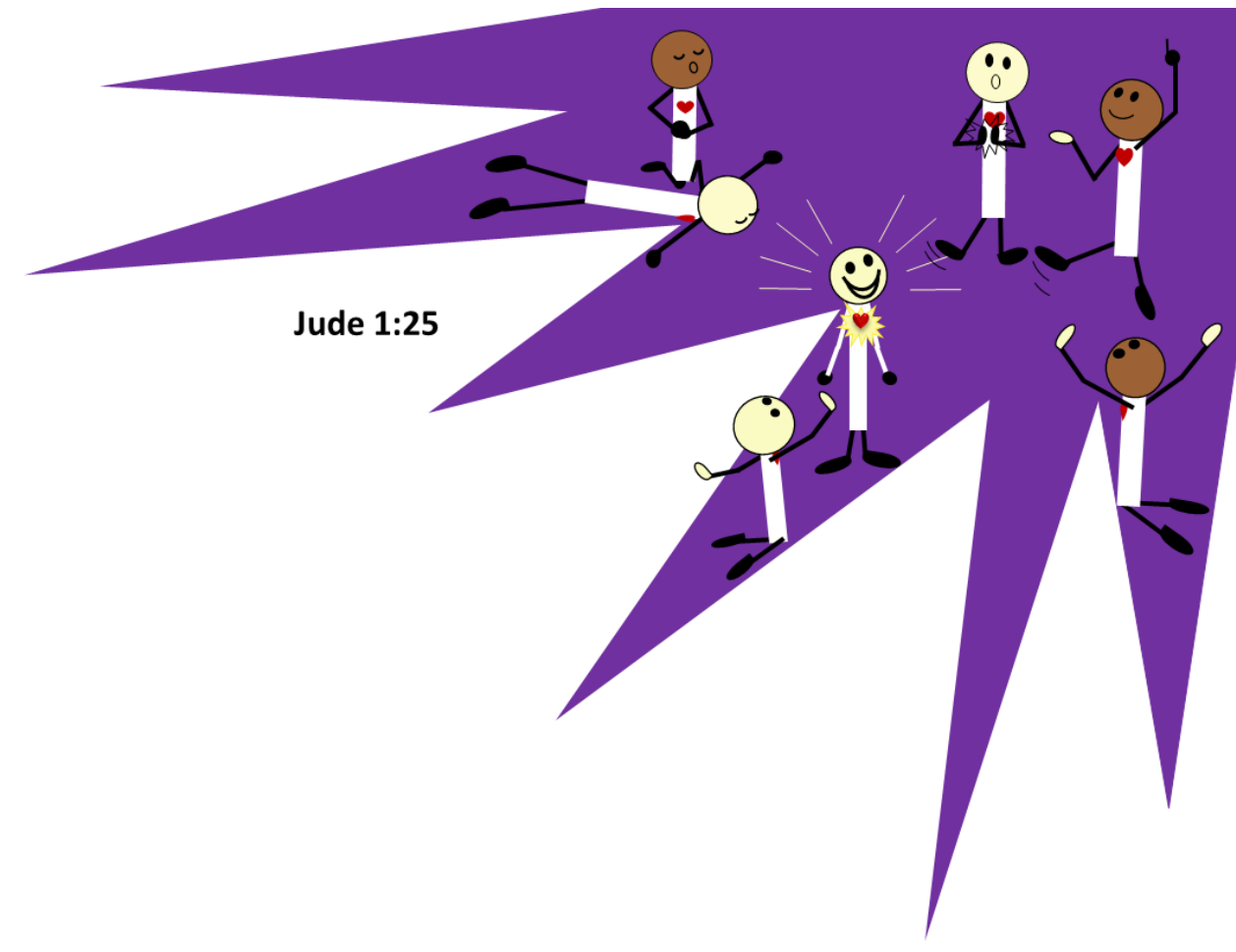
**A. Christians celebrate Christ continually**  
**i. Christians praise God for God**

**v24 is about what God does for the Christian (Diagram #2)**

**What God does for the Christian is not primarily about him**

**v25 reveals to us that it is all about Christ and the praise of the glory of His grace**

## Diagram #3



*to the only God-* make no mistake there is only one God

**Isaiah 46:9-** *remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is NONE like me*

*our Savior* applies to God the Father, the author of salvation and God the Son through whom God gives salvation

**1 John 4:14-** *And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world*

**through Jesus Christ** stands for the channel of an act  
 v24 is accomplished by God through Jesus Christ  
*Jesus is mighty to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God THROUGH Him (Hebrews 7:25)*  
*THROUGH Jesus Christ the Holy Spirit is poured out (Ti. 3:6)*  
*THROUGH Jesus Christ we are predestined to adoption (Ephesians 1:5)*  
*THROUGH Jesus Christ we exist (1 Corinthians 8:6)*  
*THROUGH Jesus Christ we have peace with God (Ro. 5:1)*  
*THROUGH Jesus Christ the only God is known (John 1:18)*

***our Lord***- supreme in authority; Controller, Ruler, and Master of the world and universe

*be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority*

**We need to have a biblical understanding of God if we are going to worship Him rightly**

**A right thinking of God ought to lead to a right worship**

**This ascription points us to the greatness of God**

Behold His *glory*- a seeming, an appearance and then the praise, applause, and honor resulting from it

I.e., God's infinite, intrinsic worth- His excellent and perfect attributes- the sum total of all He is

We can see who He is in all that He does

His glory is seen in all that He has created

God is glorious and therefore all He does brings Him glory

The Gospel most supremely magnifies His glory

2 Corinthians 4:6- *For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ*

Behold His *majesty*- greatness and absolute perfection

Everything that constitutes all that is really great and magnificent

Christ displayed his divine majesty to Peter- nothing earthly was seen there, but a celestial majesty shone on every side

Behold His *dominion*- strength, might, omnipotence  
root word means to perfect and to complete

Strength to complete His purpose, plan, and promises

## The Gospel magnifies His Dominion

**Revelation 1:5-6: *Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.***

**Behold His authority- the only rightful, actual, and unimpeded power to act, possess, control, use or dispose of everything and everyone**

**Unalterable, universal, and eternal dominion over this world**

**Authority to judge the world (John 5:22)**

**Forgive sins (Mark 2:5-12)**

**Give eternal life (John 17:2)**

***All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations (Matt 28:18)***

***Christ possesses a cosmic authority in order to bring the elect into His kingdom of salvation***

## The Gospel magnifies His authority

**It is by beholding, trusting, prizing, obeying and celebrating this glorious, majestic, omnipotent, supremely authoritative God, Savior, and Lord with our head, heart, and hands, that we give Him the glory, honor, and the praise due His name**

***before all time***- before the world was formed

***and now***- right now

***and forever***- from everlasting to everlasting

**God has always been and will always be the most glorious, majestic, omnipotent, and authoritative being**

**For this reason, Christians celebrate Christ now and forever**

**Amen**- so it is, so be it, may it be fulfilled

**An expression of absolute trust and confidence**

**To make what is said your own- *Can you make it your own?***

**What is your response to the glory, grace, and Gospel?**

**Who or what are you celebrating?**

***Note: We worship and praise that which brings us supreme joy and satisfaction***

**Christ or self, Jesus or jewels, Creator or creature, Redeemer or religion, Christ' work or yours**

**What is attacking or hindering your Christ centered celebration? (distractions-doubt-destruction)**

**Why are you celebrating who and or what you are celebrating? The gifts or the glorious Giver**

**How are you celebrating? By His power or yours?**

**Lips AND life? (Heart rendering not lip service)**

**When are you celebrating? Circumstantially vs. continually**

**Fare weather fan vs. faithful follower**

**Review: The promised power of God preserves Christians to the end and enables them to persevere in faithful obedience**

**The promised presence of God is the Christian's guarantee**

**The perpetual praise of God is the response of every Christian in light of the glory, grace, and Gospel**

**T/S True celebration is eternal and internal joy and peace in and of Christ. It flows out of each Christian through loving, faithful obedience to Christ and His Word no matter what. This is the essence of Christian celebration.**

**Called, commanded, & commissioned to celebrate everyday**

**Show the world the celebration in how you are committed to truth in love and how you love the family of God (JDP)**

**Biblically celebrating Christ is contending for Christ**



**The Problem: War against seeing, savoring, and celebrating Christ**

**The Solution: The better we behold Christ, the better we know God, the better we know God, the more we are satisfied in Him alone, the more we are satisfied, the more He is glorified. His glory is our reward and greatest joy**

*Christians celebrate Christ now and continually knowing that one day they will celebrate Him face to face for eternity. Amen.*