To Him Who is Able - Jude 24–25

Introduction

Many Christians seem to think that it is not necessary to evaluate every aspect of their lives, but the pure in heart shall see God.

Jude 24-25 is about God who works salvation in His children doing so through working in them to receive truth, respond to exhortation, be comforted by His promises, and be stirred up and awakened to love and worship by revealing Himself to them.

Background

I. Immediate context – wolves among the flock.

Jude reminds his audience that the apostles foresaw the coming of *distorters of truth* and *perversion of of faith*. (Acts 20:29, 2 Tim 3, 2 Peter 3:3, 1 John 4:1 and Rev 1-3). It has always been a problem in the church.

II. A particular redemptive context - Come out from among them

Throughout the Bible God calls his people to be separated out from the world, from Abraham throughout to the book of Revelation (e.g. Gen 12:1, 2 Cor 6:16-18, Rev 18:4)

The epistle of Jude is exactly this call from God to HIS PEOPLE to persevere in holy devotion to Him amid a compromising Christianity (Jude 20-21).

Main message

The purpose of verses 24-25 is to elevate us to God's reality, above our subjective experiences and immediate circumstances. It leads us back to know that we live every aspect of our lives in the presence of God.

I. Proclamation that rekindles a most holy faith worthy of the LORD

One of the threats to a holy faith is simply the life we live out every day, enticing us away from the deep experience that God, the only God, reigns supremely as Lord over all.

Like Esau, the love of many are enticed away from God by simple things.

Jude tells us that God is the only God (see also Psalm 115:3); Jude tells us that God is able to bring to fruition all that He plans (see also Daniel 4:35); Jude tells us that God will glorify Himself in our salvation (see also Isaiah 52:10).

II. It is an exhortation to seek after the power of His Spirit who keeps us from Tripping/slipping towards destruction

The text implies that we should acknowledging our weakness and His power to keep us from sin.

God is not only able to forgive, He can keep us safe from sin. God can save us from every trial, every temptation. He can cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

But, if God can prevent me from committing any sin whatsoever, why doesn't He?"

1) Romans 7:13: That sin may be exposed to be utterly sinful.
2) Romans 5:12 – 6:3: That grace may increase and be known as grace, not only in our regeneration, but also in our repentance, our return to God and our lifelong sanctification.

Because God can prevent us from committing what He hates, we must go to Him for grace and mercy (Heb 4:16). Jude teaches us to follow the Lamb wherever He goes (Rev 14:4).

III. Consolation/comfort that God will indeed fulfill all His purposes for us

The false believer is always out on a slippery slope, God is not His Rock (Deuteronomy 32:31)"

Such people serve as warnings and examples to dissolve our false comforts and bring us to a real and sober relationship toward God (Hebrews 4:2)

But beyond warning, there is also assurance, peace, true confidence for the pure in heart (Ps 94:18, 94:22, 140:4).

Two wonderful truths as comfort:

1) *We will stand blameless before His glory*: We will stand clean from any accusation, free from fault (Romans 8:33–34). To the self-seeking and disobedient the day of the Lord will be a day of distress, wrath, and fury, but to the faithful there will be glory revealed, the honor of His presence and eternal bliss. They will be declared above reproach because they honored God's only Son as their Lord (Rev 14:4).
2) *Flooding with jubilation*: This ecstatic joy refers to the gladness that God has accomplished His wonderful purposes (Rev 19:7). While God's purposes are wrapped in promise now, there will be an unimaginable unveiling of His glory in the salvation of our souls. The promise of His salvation has come to fulfilment in our redemption.

God can and will work perseverance within us, because all power belongs to Him. He can present us blameless before Him because all authority belongs to Him. He can bring us to eternal bliss, because all glory and majesty is found only in His presence.

Ultimately nothing can be robbed from God. While we may seem to be given over to wolves, God's glory will be revealed in bringing us to Himself (1 Thessalonians 5:9–10).

IV. It is worship and love, seeing His glory

The doxology is itself also an act of heartfelt worship. In the beginning, Jude was a skeptic, but due to a personal encounter with Christ had become a bond-servant of Christ calling Jesus his Master and Lord.

Jude could ascribe glory, majesty, dominion, and authority to God, because he himself had experienced the power of God working in his own life.

This is the differences between true worship and lip-service, between true praise and flattery. True praise and true worship comes from being affected in your experience.

Are you satisfied with God's glory, majesty, dominion, and authority as empty ideas?

Do you have a foretaste of His glory that will one day fill the earth?

Will you worship yourself, knowing that you do so in the sight of a real God? Read Isaiah 40:17–26 and also 1 Chronicles 16:23-31.