

“The Good-bye Saying”

Jude 1:24-25

Context: Jude’s message, like that of Peter’s last epistle, warns the Christian community about the danger of false teachers. He begins with words of assurance to those who are called by God, the elect. He encourages them to take heart for they are loved by God the Father and they are ever preserved unto and through eternity for Jesus. Following these words of encouragement come words of caution. The cautionary words focus on the intent of the false teachers desiring to promote rejection of Jesus as Messiah as well as rebellion against God’s holy created order. Their ultimate goal is personal gain, power, and sensual self-indulgence at the expense of the faith community.

Pivotal verse: Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life (cf. Jude 1:21).

1. Good-bye of Preservation – Jude 1:24

Precise identity of the “Him who is able” is purposely left unclear since the Trinity works co-operatively in our eternal preservation. Our preservation is fully realized beginning with the “Bema seat” judgment and then is followed by a life lived in perfected joy-filled bliss in God’s presence.

2. Good-bye of Monotheism - Jude 1:25

Jude’s “good-bye saying” declares monotheism and identifies that one and only God and states that the only way we can relate to that God is through the Savior Jesus Christ. Jude continues by leaving out the stative verb “be” in order to emphasize the qualities of His unfathomable magnificence, boundless providence, and ultimate power. As God, Jesus Christ’s reflection of these qualities ruptures all conceivable limits, as illustrated by Jude’s proclamation that Jesus’ presence is in time and beyond time.

For Further Study:

- As a **Bible study method**, formulate your interpretation as to the identity of the One who can “make you stand in the presence of His glory” (cp. Jude 1:24; Ephesians 1:4-14; Luke 9:26; Titus 2:13). Compare your interpretation to that of a commentary using a study Bible or an online tool, like [Bible Hub](#). To what time is Jude referring (cf. Revelation 20:11-15; Matthew 24:31-51; Mark 13:26-32; Daniel 7:9-14; 12:1-4)?

- How is the process of God’s preservation described by Scripture (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:10-16; John 14:17; Romans 2:5-10; 8:11-30; 12:1-2; Galatians 6:7)?

- Jude 1:25 refers to “one God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” As a **Theological study method**, use a systematic theology like [Christian Theology](#), 2nd ed., p. 691 to look up the concept of Jesus as Lord in the Trinity. Why would Jude’s [appositional use](#) of “Lord” to describe Jesus serve as a declaration of Jesus’ deity? Find the description of Jesus as God in three other passages of Scripture (e.g., John 1:1, 20:28; Luke 1:47).

Transformation reflection:

Slowly read through the benediction given by Jude in verses 24 and 25. Pray for the Spirit to bring to mind one communiqué where you can use this benediction as your closing (cf. Jude 1:24-25).