



I stand
amazed



Be Amazed
Jude 24-25



David stands before Goliath

- **1st Samuel 17:45 NIV** David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
 - In the name of the Lord Almighty = “Enclosed as in a tower called the Name of the Lord”
 - David is saying, “All that God is surrounds me, protects me, empowers me, secures me. All you have is a sword and spear and javelin

David stands before Goliath

- God and God alone allowed David to stand before Goliath that day, using a simple sling and stone, and brought victory to the Jewish army
- The word for that day would have been “amazed”
- Amazed = greatly surprised, astonished, awestruck, bowled over, dumbfounded, flabbergasted, shocked, stunned, stupefied, thunderstruck

Amazement

- Amazement was common in the lives of Jesus' disciples
- The words of Jesus, the heart of Jesus, the miracles of Jesus, the resurrection and ascension of Jesus
- When was the last time, if ever, you have been amazed with Jesus?
- We have His words, we know His heart and read of His miracles, we have His imprint on our lives through the Holy Spirit

John Piper - Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis for 33 years

- “The older I get, the more I am amazed, and full of wonder and thankfulness, that I am still a Christian—that I still love the word of God and that I still love the ministry of the word and the church of Christ, and that I still have not unfit myself for the eldership and have still not given myself over to pornography or adultery, and that after 43 years I love my wife with the love of Christ. These things are to me utterly amazing.”

John Piper - Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis for 33 years

- “If my faith in Jesus, and my eagerness to know him and his word, and my thrill at preaching, and my love for the church, and my fitness for ministry, and my fitness for heaven, and my sexual continence, and my spiritual marriage commitment to Noël —depended decisively on me, I would have-”

John Piper - Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis for 33 years

- “Ceased to be a Christian long ago, ceased to care about the word of God or thrill at exposition, given up on the church, ceased to be fit for ministry or heaven, given myself to sexual indulgence, and ceased to be married to Noël. I have no doubt about this—at all.”

Jude 24-25 NIV

- 24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— 25 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 was like the apostates before the resurrection of Jesus

- **Mark 3:20-21 NIV** 20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, “He is out of his mind.”
- Can you hear Jude thinking, “I was like them trying to define Jesus to fit into my understanding and desire.”

Jude was like the apostates before the resurrection of Jesus

- I think Jude is utterly amazed where he finds himself defending the Gospel of Jesus Christ from those who desire to distort it, to define Jesus downward
- Then Jude thinks about the true believers in the world struggling with living a life pleasing to Jesus
- Then the Holy Spirit takes over his quill and delivers for them and us amazing statements of truth

Jude identified the only reason we can be secure in our salvation

- **Vs. 24 NIV** “To Him who is able”, **AMP** “Now to Him who is able”, **Greek** “To Him now being able”
- Jude identifies the Him in **Vs. 25**, “to the only God our Savior through (*the work of*) Jesus Christ our Lord”
- It is not me or you that keeps us secure in the Hand of Jesus, Jesus has ahold of us

Jude identified the only reason we can be secure in our salvation

- What Jude is about to tell us is only possible because of Jesus Christ and the work He has done in our lives
- The apostates were attempting to bring Jesus down to their level so they might be able to understand Him humanly
- Jude lifts Jesus up to where all we can do is be amazed at who He is and what He is actively doing in our lives throughout eternity

Jude identified the only reason we can be secure in our salvation

- “Now to Him” – After all that the apostates have said about Jesus and their understanding of Him, turn your eyes now upon the majesty and glory of Jesus and let me tell you what He is presently doing for all those who are true believers
- You want to be amazed, then try and grasp the glory of what Jesus is doing in your life today

Jesus is the one who keeps you from fatally stumbling away from Him

- **Vs. 24** “To him who (*now*) is able (*strong*) to keep (*guard or protect*) you from stumbling (*falling away finally and fatally*)
 - Greek, “Guard you so that you are exempt from fatally and finally stumbling away”

Jesus is the one who keeps you from fatally stumbling away from Him

- **James 3:2a NIV** We all stumble in many ways.
- But as true believers can we sin so much, sin so deep, so hurting to God that He will turn His back and forsake us?
- John Piper, “If the decisive cause for my faithfulness to Christ in any of those expressions must come from me, it will not come, because it is not there.”

Jesus is the one who keeps you from fatally stumbling away from Him

- If it were totally left to me the answer would be a corrupt life, rejecting everything of God and being eternally separated from Him and all I cherish today
- But praise God, it is not up to us it is up to Him
- God has the power, authority, and majesty to keep us upright in Him

Jesus is the one who keeps you from fatally stumbling away from Him

- **John 10:27-30 NIV**, “27 My sheep listen to my voice (*hear my voice out of the chaos*); I know them (*personally*), and they (*know and*) follow me. 28 I give (*past tense extended forward without end*) them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. 30 I and the Father are one.”

Jesus is the one who keeps you from fatally stumbling away from Him

- Knowing this, how can you not strive to live a life that glorifies your Heavenly Father?
- How can you take His work in your life for granted?
- **Matthew 5:16 NIV**, “In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
- Because God keeps us the next blessing is ours

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- Please remember we must all stand before a holy, righteous, just God and give an account of our lives
- **Romans 14:12 NIV** So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.
- We must remember that one of the attributes of God is omniscience – the state of knowing everything

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **Matthew 12:36 NIV** But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty (*careless, worthless*) word they have spoken.
- This would and should scare the sin right out of us, but it doesn't
- We are children of the moment and rarely do we look ahead this far

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **Romans 7:24 AMP** Wretched and miserable man that I am! Who will [rescue me and] set me free from this body of death [this corrupt, mortal existence]?
- **Romans 7:25 AMP** Thanks be to God [for my deliverance] through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- And because of Christ we will be presented faultless before this holy, righteous, just God
- Not sinless, worthy of judgement and condemnation, guilty
- Presented Faultless – Seen as perfect, impeccable, irreproachable, innocent, blameless - blemished but right, sinless, and spotless in the eyes and judgement of God---How?

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **Leviticus 16:7-10 NIV** 7 Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the entrance to the tent of meeting. 8 He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the Lord and the other for the scapegoat. 9 Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the Lord and sacrifice it for a sin offering. 10 But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the Lord to be used for making atonement by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat.

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **Leviticus 16:20-22 NIV** 20 “When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. 21 He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat’s head.

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **Leviticus 16:20-22 NIV** He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. 22 The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness.

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- **1st Peter 2:24 AMP** He personally carried our sins in His body on the cross [willingly offering Himself on it, as on an altar of sacrifice], so that we might die to sin [becoming immune from the penalty and power of sin] and live for righteousness; for by His wounds you [who believe] have been healed.

Jesus will present you faultless before a holy, righteous, just God

- The result is not standing sinless before God but faultless
- Infomercial master Ron Popeil's expression, "But wait! There is more!"

Our presentation before God will be accompanied with great joy

- **Vs. 24** To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy
 - **AMP**, “with triumphant joy and unspeakable delight”
- Trainer and coach celebration after Australian swimmer Ariarne Titmus’ gold medal swim



Our presentation before God will be accompanied with great joy

- His triumphant joy came from his student winning Olympic gold
- The joy of this feat will eventually fade, not be forgotten but it will fade over time
- But can you even imagine the unspeakable joy when we are presently faultless before God, our eternity sealed or joy forever swelling in our hearts and minds for an eternity, never fading

Our presentation before God will be accompanied with great joy

- This “triumphant joy” ultimately belongs to Jesus Christ
- Then I can imagine all of heaven’s host rejoicing with us because of Jesus

Our presentation before God will be accompanied with great joy

- **Revelation 19:6-7 NIV** 6 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. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!
- What a day that will be

Why wait until then?

- We can begin to experience this joy now as we look forward to this day
- Not in weariness, hopelessness or worry
- But confident expectation because Jesus does it all, we simply yield to Him and allow Him to do His amazing work in our lives for all eternity

Why wait until then?

- **Romans 8:18 NIV** I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.



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amazed



Be Amazed
Jude 24-25

