

Lessons From Jude

Doxology

(Jd 24-25)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Afternoon,
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series of "Lessons From Jude."
 - a. In the course of his short epistle, Jude has had to write some necessary, and to some degree, unpleasant things...
 - i. A plea to contend earnestly for the faith.
 1. **Jd 3**
 - ii. A warning about ungodly men who have crept in unnoticed.
 1. **Jd 4**
 - iii. A reminder of God's righteous condemnation in times past.
 1. **Jd 5-7**
 - iv. A description of the depravity of the ungodly.
 1. **Jd 8-16**
 - v. Counsel on how to keep from stumbling.
 1. **Jd 17-23**
 - b. It would not be farfetched to think that such unpleasant tasks would leave him in a depressed state of mind
 - i. Yet we find that Jude is moved to end his epistle with a "doxology."
3. Doxology
 - a. The word means "an expression of praise to God"
 - i. Doxologies are common in Scripture
 1. **Ro 16:25-27**
 2. **Ep 3:20-21**
 - b. The format of a doxology is usually in two parts.
 - i. An address to the one being praised, including reasons for the praise being offered.
 - ii. The expression of praise itself.
4. In Jude's doxology we find Jude ends his epistle...
 - a. On a very high note, not in doubt and fear.
 - b. With a beautiful expression of faith and hope.
5. With that in mind let us look at our text today.

Lessons From Jude

I. To Whom Praise Is Ascribed (24-25a)

A. "To Him who is able"

1. "to keep you from stumbling"
 - i. We know God is the one due to verse 25.
 - ii. The emphasis appears to be on His ability to keep us from stumbling.
 - a. Stumbling does not refer to the occasional sin but to falling completely away.
 1. **II Pt 1:10** "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble"
 - b. This is reassuring in an epistle filled with warning about ungodly men who would seek to lead one astray.
 - iii. God's ability to keep us from stumbling was implied at the very beginning of this epistle.
 - a. Jd 1 "preserved in Jesus Christ"
 - iv. But as we have suggested in previous lessons, our faith must cooperate with God's power if we are to keep from "stumbling."
 - a. **I Pt 1:5; 2Pe 1:5-11**
 - v. We must heed the exhortations given by Jude.
 - a. "Remember the words spoken before..." (17)
 - b. "building yourselves up on your most holy faith" (20)
 - c. "praying in the Holy Spirit" (20)
 - d. "keep yourselves in the love of God (21)
 - e. "looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life" (21)
 - vi. If we continue in faith, heeding such exhortations, we know that God is able to keep us from falling!
 2. "to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy"
 - i. Here, the focus is on God's ability to produce the ultimate goal of redemption.
 - ii. That goal is expressed here as presenting us before God...
 - a. "faultless"
 1. **Ep 5:27** "that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish." (NKJV)
 - b. "with exceeding joy"
 1. Without a doubt this will be the condition of those so blessed
 2. Through His divine providence, God brought His scheme of redemption to pass.
 - i. **Ro 8:28-30**

B. "To God"

1. "our Savior"
 - i. At this point Jude is about to ascribe praise to God.
 - a.

Lessons From Jude

2. "who alone is wise"
 - i. His wisdom is seen in His ability to keep us from stumbling and present us faultless.

II. The Praise Ascribed

A. Glory & Majesty

1. "glory" comes from "doxa" {dox'-ah}, and is used to suggest dignity and honor
2. "majesty" comes from "megalosune" {meg-al-o-soo'-nay}, meaning "greatness"
3. These terms are closely related in concept, suggesting that which is worthy of awe, praise, and worship.

B. Dominion & Power

1. "dominion" is from "kratos" {krat'-os}, and means "might, power, strength"
2. "power" is from "exousia" {ex-oo-see'-ah}, and refers to "authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength"
3. Also closely related in concept, the use of these words demonstrate that Jude recognizes that it is God who rightly deserves and exercises authority over all.

C. Both Now & Forever

1. Jude's fervent prayer is that dominion and power, glory and majesty remain God's.
2. Not just for the present, but for eternity!

CONCLUSION

1. With a single word ("amen", i.e., "so be it"), Jude ends his doxology and the epistle itself.
 - a. And so it WILL be...
 - i. Despite the efforts of any to turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ
 - ii. God will bring into judgment all who are ungodly.
 - iii. God will preserve in Jesus Christ all who remain faithful to Him.
 1. God will keep them from stumbling.
 2. God will present them faultless before His presence with exceeding joy.
2. And to Him WILL be...
 - a. Glory and majesty
 - b. Dominion and power
 - i. Both now and forever!
3. But brethren, for us to enjoy the blessedness promised the faithful, we must heed Jude's call.
 - a. To remember the words spoken before
 - b. To build ourselves up on our most holy faith
 - c. To pray in the Holy Spirit
 - d. To keep ourselves in the love of God
 - e. To look for the mercy of our Lord Jesus unto eternal life
 - f. To extend compassionate effort to those in danger
4. Invitation