

(5) Speaking the Names of God

“To Him Who Is Able to Keep You From Falling”

Jude 1:17-24

But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. ¹⁸ They said to you, “**In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires.**” ¹⁹ **These are the people who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.** ²⁰ But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹ keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. ²² Be merciful to **those who doubt**; ²³ save others by **snatching them from the fire**; to others **show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.**

- Scoffers, Godless, Divisive
- Doubt & Fear
- Snatching people and their faiths from destruction
- See and Taking Very Seriously the ravaging effects of Sin in their Society...

Sound Familiar?

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

Keep You From Falling

- One of the biggest hurdles I encounter in the lives of Christians is *Shame*.
 - Guilt and Shame are different.
 - Guilt is owning an offense or injustice we have committed against others...
 - It often is resolved with reconciliation
 - Shame is different. It is uglier and holds on far longer.
 - Shame a grueling and painful disease of the Spirit...
 - It infects with doubt, depression, and anxiety
 - Isolation is one of its most dangerous effects
 - “I’m not good enough, and I never will be...”
 - “I’m worthless – I never learn! – I make the same mistakes over and over and over”
 - “What’s the point in even resisting...I know I’m gonna plunge right back into this horrible pattern – I might as well get it over with...”
- So Many Christians Misunderstand Their Relationship with God...
- They Don’t Know **“Him who is able to keep them from falling...”**

Psalms 37:23-24

The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. **Though they stumble, they will NEVER fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand.**

- There’s a Difference Between Stumbling and Falling...

1 John 5:5-9

God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷ **but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.** ⁸ **If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.** ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- The Struggle or the inner fight...is normal
 - Don't Stop fighting...keep walking in the light; even if you stumble every step of the way!
 - HE WILL KEEP YOU FROM FALLING!

- The LORD walks with Each One of Us – ALL at Different Parts of the Journey

Romans 14:1-4

Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.* ²One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables *only.* ³The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, **for God has accepted him.** ⁴**Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.**

Philippians 1:6

And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Standing Blameless in His Presence with Great Joy

Hebrews 12:1-2

Lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who **for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

- “Despising the Shame”
 - The only agony of the Cross referenced...

*Shame – you are a liar!
You have dogged me and plagued me and chased me for most of my life...
No More!*

*The **Joy of the Lord** is my strength!
Compared to the Joy of Being Reconciled, Loved, Delivered, and Protected by my Father...
You are nothing! You are defeated!*

*Before, I let you distract me and paralyze me...I believed your lies...I drank the poison you brought me...
This nasty shroud of death and despair you covered me in...I rip it off and throw into the fire...*

In exchange, He has given me a white robe and a new name...

I stand blameless before my Father and my God...

And no one – no one -- can ever take that away from me.

You Once had power over me, but Joy has rendered you powerless.

I walk with the King...

And even if I stumble...and I will again and again

He Holds my hand...

“Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling, 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.”

- Take Courage Dear Heart...and Never, Never, Never Give Up!