



FIRST BAPTIST
— CHURCH —
FAIR OAKS RANCH

Day 40: To Him Who Is Able

Jude 24–25 *Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory 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. (ESV)*

DEVOTIONAL

Forty days ago we began with the concept of walking in the fear of the Lord as the beginning of wisdom. As a reminder, FEAR of the Lord stood for: Faithful to the Word, Expectant of Christ's return, Abiding in His presence, and Reverent before His holiness. As we complete our final day, we end exactly where every pursuit of holiness should end: not with a reminder of our results, but with a doxology of praise to the God who does the keeping. The wonderful secret underneath all forty days is this — He is the one who holds us, from first to last.

Hear the promise in these words, and let it settle deep into your heart. “To him who is able to keep you from stumbling.” After all our striving toward purity and all our pressing forward, it is possible we might close the journey anxiously. What if I stumble? what if I can't keep this up? Jude answers before the fear can take root. The One who is able to keep you is God Himself. Your holiness does not finally rest on the strength of your grip on Him, but on the strength of His grip on you. He is able. He will keep you.

Consider what He is keeping you for: “to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy.” This is the destination of the whole road we have walked. One day, the God we have learned to fear and revere will present us: cleansed, complete, without a single blemish; into the blazing presence of God's glory. The mood of that moment will not be terror but great joy. The reverence that began as trembling awe will be swallowed up in overwhelming gladness, as the holy God we bowed before welcomes us home, faultless and full of joy.

So how does our journey end? The way it began — with God at the center. Jude's response to this amazing grace is worship: "to the only God our Savior... be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority... forever." That is the point of holiness. Not to make much of ourselves and our spiritual achievement, but to make much of Him. We have learned to walk in Fear of the Lord these forty days, not to earn His favor, but because He is worthy of every ounce of awe we can offer.

Beloved, keep walking in the Fear of the Lord. Stay faithful, live expectantly, abide in His presence, and bow in reverence before Him. Through it all, rest in this: the God you fear is the God who is able to keep you, and He will present you blameless, with great joy, before the presence of His glory. To Him be all the glory, forever. Amen.

TAKE AWAY

The journey ends not with your grip on God but with His grip on you. He will keep you — and one day He will present you blameless before His glory with great joy.

PRAYER PROMPT

Praise the Lord today as the One able to keep you from stumbling, and rest in His promise to present you blameless before His glory with great joy.