

## Preserved In Jesus Christ

**Jude 1:21** **keep yourselves** in the love of God, **looking** for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. {**eternal life = zoe, not heaven; looking = actively**}

How? **Holiness** is required to succeed in this search.

**This is not legalism (external)** but of the heart (internal) flowing out in all of life = how we live: intellectual, moral, sexual, ethical, financial, marital – affecting all of life at home, work, play, and worship.

**Whole and Holy have the same root** (“hal”) and include spirit, soul and body.

### 4 Hindrances (progressively):

**1) Secular humanism** (man is central, not God): to lose His word = His standards = orientation to right and wrong = holy & unholy.

**2) Individualism** (me & mine) = no motivation to advance His agenda to save the world. This is unholy.

**3) Loss of vision** promotes self-centeredness = clouded sight = cast off restraint = do wrong. This is unholy.

**4) Lack of Unity (One body, one Lord, one baptism, one faith...)** (Again, these progress from 1 to 4.)

### 4 Helps:

**1) God's word** to reject the effect of **secular humanism** (society's norms) (Rom 12:2 “world” = culture.

**Jer 31:33** “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will **put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts**; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. {**speaks of the spirit of a sound mind - Thinking – “Sensing” within – Intuition**}

**2) Change from “Me” to “Us” - Individualism**

**3) See a victorious Lord** (Don't give your future to the devil; there is a future and a hope) – **Loss of vision**

**4) Accept the sacrifice of unity = choosing to live for Us = love. – Lacking unity**

**1 Th 3:12-13** And may the Lord make you increase and **abound in love to one another** and to all, just as we do to you, {13} **so that** He may **establish your hearts blameless in holiness** before our God and Father **at the coming of our Lord** Jesus Christ with all His saints.

**Love and unity go together = heart confidence; “blameless in holiness”.**

**Context of v. 21**

**Jude 1:1** Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, {past} sanctified {present} by God the Father, and preserved {future} in Jesus Christ {The same yesterday, today and tomorrow}

**Jude 4-16 describes those walking as ungodly (unholy). Then comes the transition to:**

**Jude 17-19** But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: {18} how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would **walk according to their own ungodly lusts**. {19} These are **sensual** persons, who cause divisions, **not having the Spirit**. {pneumatikos/psuchikos}

#### **4 Principles of Life** (Zoe): #1 = **Contend**

**Jude 1:3** Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly** for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. {= **actively reject secular humanism**}

**#2) Only one faith to all saints: v. 3 “common salvation”** = held in common; shared. The entire NT is written to a plural “You.”

**Col 1:27** To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this **mystery among the Gentiles**: which is Christ in you {plural}, the hope of glory. {Gentiles live in “mystery.” **You (plural) are the key to unlock the puzzle.**}

**#3) We wrestle but Christ gives the victory (e.g., contend, strong in the Lord...)**

**#4) 4 duties of Love** (sacrifice of unity) versus “not having the Spirit” (v. 19)

- A) Jude 20** But you, beloved, **building** yourselves up on your most holy **faith**, {Foundational}
- B) praying** in the Holy Spirit – you do it but Holy Spirit makes it effective (Rom 8)
- C) Jude 21 keep yourselves** in the love of God, **{You keep clean & holy}**
- D) looking for** the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. {Turn up your expecter}

#### **The service of love:**

**Jude 22** And on some have compassion, making a distinction; {Reassure the doubting}

**Jude 23** but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. {Yank some out of destruction, being watchful & reverent = “fear”}

#### **Doxology:**

**Jude 24-25** Now to Him who is able to **keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless** Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, {25} To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both **now and forever**. Amen. {Moses could not be in the glory}

The Lord can keep you from falling = preserve you now and bring you safely home to His everlasting Presence = **Grace**. This requires **Faith = Keep yourselves (v. 21) in the love of God (called, sanctified, and preserved (v.1))**

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24** <sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be **preserved blameless** at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> **He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.**

**Altar: anyone looking for mercy unto LIFE, come!**