

Week 41  
277/88

**Transforming Daily**  
**“ . . . keep you from stumbling . . . ”**  
*Jude 24*

I love the irony and juxtaposition used in Scripture. One must die to live. One must give to receive. One has only the authority to submit. Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. The Trinity is the Godhead three in one. Hell is outer darkness, but also an unquenchable fire. Also in this text, Jude refers to Jesus as the one who can keep you from stumbling (which is no doubt in regards to salvation as well as sanctification), and yet He is known as The Stumbling block, The Rock of offense (1 Peter 2:4-8).

Christ is regarded as a stumbling block to those who are disobedient. But for those who are obedient to His Word He is our refuge and strong tower. Through and in Christ, we have redemption and are reconciled to the heavenly Father by His work on Calvary. He is truly the Chief Cornerstone. The Bible says that anyone who falls on Him in repentance shall be broken and restored, but those who continue to reject Him, He will fall on in judgment and they shall be crushed. Therefore, His Word keeps those who follow Him from stumbling and causes those to stumble who reject His Word.

Those who categorically reject His Word are the lost. Those who know His Word but do not contend for the faith are disobedient. Jude's message is meant as encouragement to the believer of the early church especially in light of the presence of false teachers. Those in Galatia who were stumbling were those who were either lost or in disobedience to God's Word. The long and the short of Jude's message was for the believer to contend for the faith, which was keeping His Word, this was the means by which the believer was kept from stumbling concerning both salvation and sanctification.

Jude's message is still the same for the 21<sup>st</sup> century believer. The believer is to be warned as well as encouraged to contend for the faith. Do you contend for the faith? Do you find yourself doubtful at times or stumbling about with respect to God's Word? Are you entertaining false teachings that might cause you to spiritually misstep? Are you trusting Christ who will keep you from stumbling?