

**You  
Are Special**

**5-8-22**

Jude 1:1–2 (ESV)

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept by Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

**The title of the message this morning is “You Are Special”! This message has special meaning this morning because today is “Mother’s Day”. Although we are all special in God’s eyes, it goes double for “Mothers”! You are super special!**

**However, in a more general sense, this gives us a clear statement about how God views us. As Christians we have put our trust in Jesus Christ. With this decision on our part, we have access to all the power of God. Notice the words that are used to describe us. We are the Called. This word also means “invited”! We are the ones God has invited to HIS presence. We have been invited to the party. We have been invited to the party because we are Beloved. The invited are the Beloved. God’s people are identified as special in both the OT and NT.**

Deuteronomy 7:6 (ESV)

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

**Whenever we get tired, get down, feel overwhelmed, feel hopeless, feel like no one cares, we must grasp the truth that we are God’s invited, HIS beloved, HIS treasure possession. Therefore, we persevere under the watchful eye of God.**

**As God's treasured possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth, we are kept by Jesus Christ. Kept literally means to guard from loss or to keep an eye on. Therefore, Jesus guards us and keeps an eye on us because HE has bought us for a price. HE took our sin and died for us. This divine love provides eternal peace safe in HIS arms.**

Deut.33:27 (NIV)

The eternal God is your refuge,  
and underneath are HIS everlasting arms.

**In God's everlasting arms we have the Abundance and Multiplication of mercy, peace, and love. Never lose hope. We will be filled to capacity as God's invited.**

**We are special. We are invited as the beloved of God and therefore Jesus will keep HIS eye on us. This sounds so good, but when our situation seems so bad, so endless, so hopeless that we don't see any way it could ever change, we often start to waiver or stumble. At this time, we must remember:**

Jude 24–25 (ESV)

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, <sup>25</sup> 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.

We must remember that as the invited, the beloved, the kept, God's treasured possession, we are different, we have hope, because we give all things "TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP US FROM FALLING." This word "keep" here means "to stand guard," implying custody and protection. **This reminds us of God's ability to care for us no matter what the circumstances.**

When facing temptation, we must not depend on our personal, inner strength but on the power of God. God is the "ONE WHO IS ABLE TO KEEP US FROM FALLING." **This means that it is our duty to keep ourselves in God's love by maintaining a steady gaze upon God; it is God's responsibility to do the active protecting and bringing us blameless into HIS presence.**

We are special. The grace of divine strength and ability is available for those who will draw upon it.

*God's supreme object is to make the church of believers fit to be presented blameless to HIMSELF "through" the actual perfect sacrifice of "Jesus Christ our Lord".*

Ephesians 1:4 (ESV)

HE chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before HIM.

We will be presented "blameless" before God who is the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose attributes are glory, majesty, dominion, and authority. **Our God was before all time and is now and is forever.**

Hebrews 13:8 (ESV)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

**No matter what is going on now or what lies ahead, Christ will remain unchanged. Our Christian conduct is based on this certainty. Christ will never be superseded. *Therefore the past Christian faith will serve as the changeless pattern for living for succeeding generations.*** The final word is Amen which is the Hebrew affirmation meaning “So be it!” Thus, God is able! So be it!

**Our foundation is firm, unchanging, and will be confirmed when Christ returns. We are the Invited, the Beloved, the Kept, and God’s treasured possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.**

**When we feel that the world is crashing down on us, when we feel discouraged, when we feel helpless, we must fix our eyes on Jesus. He is watching over us and is moving heaven and earth to protect us and guide us. Look up! Persevere! God is able!**

**We are special! Jesus made us special!**

1 Timothy 1:15 (ESV)

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.