

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

5.17.2020

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of Gods word.

A Light for the Gentiles

Isaiah 49: 1 – 10, 22

Gods people do not exist for themselves alone. God gathers his people into his life for one purpose, and that is the salvation of all mankind. Restoration is all about Gods healing work. Gods work is always greater than ours, molding our lives into his, weaving our lives into his future, through Christ his Son. As Christians we recognize Christ as the servant, whose sacrifice was voluntary, both for the nation of Israel and the Gentile people. So, for all those that take God at his word, we can take courage in knowing that those who come humbly before God are directed to lay down their worldly fears, stand up and have faith in Jesus Christ, to accept the free gift of salvation and live according to the hope of eternal life.

Isaiah 49: 1 – 10, 22,.... Thus saith the Lord, in an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee, and I will preserve thee....

God from the beginning, had chosen Christ his Son to bring the message of salvation to the whole world. But, Christ could not minister to the gentiles without first ministering to the Jewish nation.

Romans 1:16,....For I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also the Greek.

There is only one thing that can contradict this passage of scripture and that is unbelief.

To believe, Jews and Gentiles alike must humble themselves before an almighty God. This makes us aware that we depend entirely on God's mercy, not on ourselves or worldly traditions. Who we are or what we are cannot save us, only faith in Christ can save us. Isaiah tells us, the word will rescue his people, his people who suffer, he will give them comfort. Like Isaiah, our mission today is to take the word of salvation to all, but, we cannot do this on our own, we must seek others to get involved.

Christ in the Old Testament is portrayed in two roles: A suffering Servant for God and a ruling King of God. Both, meant that he had to experience the rejection, humiliation, pain and suffering of the cross to become the anointed one of God. A light both to the Jews and the Gentiles.

Just as Israel did, some Christians today, serve the Lord with their voice when it is convenient to do so, but their hearts are far from him. We have compromised our trust in God. Our eyes are blinded, our ears are deaf, we are stubborn and rebellious, we confess with our mouth but do not believe with our whole heart.

Romans 10:9,....that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.

But, just as the Lord allowed Isaiah to see in this passage of scripture, God allows us to see today. A faithful remnant, people that humble themselves to God, people that truly honor God, people that provide comfort through prayer, and his word, to those that are set apart unto God. Those who believe that Christ alone paid our sin debt, so that all who believe might be saved. Christ, the servant who suffered, we now look upon and give honor and praise and glory to him as our heavenly king.

Isaiah was writing this to the Jewish people while addressing the Gentiles. We can see in the first two verses:

(the Lord hath called me from the womb)....**Matthew 1:21**,....she will bear a son, you will call his name Jesus, he will save his people from their sins. His people being both, Jews and Gentiles.

(he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword)....**Matthew 10: 33 – 39**,....I have not come to bring peace, but a sword....whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

The truth of God's word (Christ) will stir up the whole world against falseness and deception. This word is a weapon of the truth of salvation.

Isaiah 49: 2,....And made me a polished shaft....

Mark 16:15,....Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

The word of truth will be effective both near and far. Depending upon the aim and direction that God gives, a polished arrow can go both a short distance or a long way in flight with the same effectiveness.

Hebrews 4: 12,....piercing even to the division of soul and spirit....

As Christians, we know this servant is Christ. We also know this servant personally, as Christ. Just as Israel one day will be, we are honored in the eyes of the Lord. Not due to anything that we have done, but due to salvation, we have found favor in Gods eyes through his Son, the servant, Christ. This passage of scripture shows us, it is not our own strength that makes us useful to God. It is his strength, given unto us, through Christ, that allows us to become servants, and to become useful to him, to accomplish those things that he would see fit for us to accomplish. To go one day, from the status of the humble servant, to the status of living and reigning with him, eternally.

Lesson Notes:

God has an important message for his servants to deliver.

Just as we are today, the nation of Israel had been called to reflect Gods glory.

The servant of the Lord sets before us the perfect example of faith.

Although Israel would not respond to the ministry of repentance, Isaiah was confident that he could trust that the Father would see his work and would bring blessing to him.

Christ will be savior, or light, to all the people of the world.

The sovereign God would see to it that the messiahs ministry would bear much fruit.

We were created by God for a purpose, that main purpose is to Glorify the Lord.

We cannot avoid Gods call on our life.

Every child of God is called to bear witness to who Christ is and to bring the gospel of salvation to those who do not know him.

Our timing is not Gods timing.

Jesus, is the light to all believers, and those who know him have the privilege and opportunity to introduce others to the light. We are to be the light that leads others to Christ.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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