

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

6.7.2020

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.

Ehud defeats Moab

## Judges 3:12 – 30

God does not just change the areas of our life so that our relationship with him can be proven and improved. God wants his people to be workers, with his spiritual. None of us like to struggle in, or against sin, but these trials are good for us, to strengthen us, to prove our commitment to God and to his word. When we are obedient to Gods word, we stay strong, we are not hindered by trials and tribulations, we are able to overcome them completely. We oftentimes focus so intently on the things that are obvious, that we miss out on what is important in our lives and the lives of others, that is salvation.

**Judges 3: 12 – 17, 20 – 26, 30**,....the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the Lord....the Lord raised them up a deliverer....

Oftentimes it takes many years of being in bondage to worldly things that controls our lives, before we learn to look away from ourselves and look to God.

We are going to look at the five things mentioned in our lesson notes that not only summed up the lives of the Israelite people, but also sums up our own life as well. These five things are, rebellion, retribution, repentance, restoration, and rest.

## Rebellion against God.

Why do we rebel against God.

**John 8: 42 – 47**,....because you are not able to listen to my word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do....

We are now and have been living in an age in which the so called believers are drifting further and further away from God and the morale principles found in his word. The nations as a whole, no longer claim to be Christian nations, but religious nations, giving way to many kinds of doctrines and religious beliefs. When we allow these things to come into our lives and into the church, this deception, brings along with it the desire to follow after those things that are contrary to Gods word. Due to our spiritual blindness, our spiritual strength weakens, which allows the strength of our enemies to seem far greater than our own.

Its deceptiveness is such that we do not realize its presence in our lives, and in that of the church. This causes the circumstances we are going through to seem normal and therefore brings about rebellion against God.

## Retribution, divine, in God.

Retribution or punishment from God, follows sin, so therefore rebellion against God is looked upon as sin. We must not neglect or violate the morale laws of God's word. In doing so, the scripture fully justifies the exception of, and shows that sin will be punished.

**Romans 1: 18 – 25**,....the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness....therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness....

No man can obtain Gods favor or escape his wrath on his own. We all need the saving grace of Christ. The sinfulness of man is described as ungodliness. Ungodly people do what they know to be wrong, they foolishly follow after worldliness and wander from God, until all traces of the truth of the gospel have been lost. For this cause God brings divine retribution in order to turn mankind back to him.

## Repentance to God.

Repentance is something that the word of God commands. Do to wickedness, it is demanded of those who are worldly, and is a requirement of Christ for salvation and eternal life. Repentance, which was proclaimed over and over by the prophets of old and the apostles of the new testament is scarcely mentioned in the church today. Goodness, joy, happiness, prosperity are just a few of the things being proclaimed in the church today without any consequences for the sinfulness in our lives. Before there can be salvation, there must be repentance.

**2 Peter 3: 9**,....the Lord is not slack concerning his promise....not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance....

**Acts 17: 30 – 31**,....but now commands all men everywhere to repent....

Repentance is not an emotion, even though the church today caters to the emotions of the people. Repentance is an act that resolves the bondage of sin and removes the separation between God and man. Genuine repentance comes through conviction, contrition ( Godly Sorrow) and change. Through Christ and the cross God provided for our salvation. Through conviction, we become contrite over our sinfulness, and see the need to change from our sinful ways.

## Restoration from God.

No matter what failures we have faced in life, restoration is available in God. Mans persecution upon us has made us feel inferior to others. God promises us restoration, Satan has been able to steal our joy, happiness, and health, which causes us to live in misery and pain. Do not be discouraged or lowly hearted, God will restore unto us all that he has promised. God promises restoration, all it takes is faith and trust in him.

**1 Peter 5: 6 – 10**,....humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God....after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and restore you....

Restoration requires our participation. Gods promises our conditional, our actions determine Gods reaction toward us. There are many things we will never know unless God reveals them to us. We must seek Gods plan in our life and when we know Gods plan for us, we will enjoy his divine restoration. Restoration comes from God alone, not man. Do not hope in man, rather hope in God.

## Rest with God.

The word of God teaches us that God sees that it is necessary to command us to rest. This is due to mankind being a restless people, always trying to gain achievement through self worth, their hopes being tied up in what they can accomplish for themselves. Resting in the Lord and his provisions through salvation is the answer to a life that otherwise would never be satisfied.

**Matthew 11: 28 – 30**,....come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest....

Rest comes through spiritual discipline, discipline that allows us to trust God beyond what we can accomplish on our own. Rest allows us to focus on God and our relationship with him. Rest requires faith, we have faith to separate ourselves from the restlessness of the world. When we find rest in God, it reminds us of the eternal glory that is yet to come.

Sin will always bring bondage, which comes through deception, but, God, will still respond when we call on him for deliverance. Through salvation, we have become holy in God. We must not mix our spiritual life in Christ with that of the world, this will create separation with God. Instead we must separate ourselves from that which is worldly and sinful.

When our confidence is in the promises of God, then there will be victory. When we allow others to share in that victory, it brings unity to Gods people.

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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