

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

7.19.2020

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.

Israel demands a King

1 Samuel 8: 1 – 11, 18 – 20

From creation until now, man has tried to put aside every aspect of instruction given to us by a loving God. Instruction that he has given unto us in the realm and of his presence and protection, not willing that we should not yield to his perfect will. Even though nations have rejected Gods authority, the Lord remains faithful, but, just because he remains faithful, does not mean, that there will be no consequences to rejecting his authority. God has, and always will maintain justice through all things that happen in, and pertain to, our spiritual life. Sadly, people who disregard Gods instruction, and follow their own desires, eventually get what they ask for, and although they may think that they are satisfied, which is a worldly justification, spiritually they are miserable, wretched and poor.

This weeks lesson deals with the times in our lives that we, at times, forsake our relationship with God to follow after worldly, fleshly desires, many times not realizing, that we are using Gods word as justification for the direction that we have taken in our life.

We soon realize in our life, that just because we may have come from a family of spiritual greatness, or have, moved from location to location to start anew, or even have excepted material wealth to make decisions that benefit our status in the world, that there are consequences to making important decisions in our life without seeking the wisdom and guidance that God has to give through the leadership of the Holy Spirit and his word.

It is a very dangerous thing, to seek after, and desire things, that seem lucrative, just because everyone else is doing it.

Romans 1: 18 – 32,....for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness....because although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened....

Paul in this passage of scripture prompts us to ask ourselves some very important questions. Do we find ourselves running away from the one, living, and true God. Do we submit things to make ourselves more comfortable with our sinfulness. Are we truly worshipping God in a way that is pleasing unto him.

All, are guilty of sin, and all, must have faith in Christ, as the means by which to obtain salvation.

Often enough, it is the goal of Gods people to experience the trials and tribulations of their sinfulness, so as to call out to him for their salvation from it.

God does not discriminate when it comes to his wrath, it is directed to all who are ungodly and unrighteous. People tend to suppress or hide the truth by and through unrighteousness in an attempt to extinguish or hide the means of their sinfulness. In the end, all that we end up doing, is confirming the truth.

Even though man knows that these worldly vices are wrong, we still continue to practice them as well as encourage others to do the same. And even though we know that punishment is an unavoidable, firm decision of Gods, we still continue in it none the less.

Romans 8: 35 - 39,....who shall separate us from the love of God....yet in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us....for I am persuaded that neither....shall be able to separate us from the love of God....

As believers, Gods great love for us does not diminish, nor is it terminated due to our failures, shortcomings, or sinfulness. This is due to his great mercy and grace, that he predestined toward us, before the foundation of the world.

Ephesians 1: 4 – 5,....just as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame, before him in love, having predestined us to adoption, as sons by Jesus Christ....

Our obedience to Christ reflects our love for him. God saved us while we were yet sinners, knowing that we would sin after salvation, but, through obedience we can trust that he will not cast us off, even though we disobey.

Deuteronomy 18: 9,....when you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations....

As Christians, God has given to us the desires of our heart, not the desires of someone else's heart. The desire of our heart, at the time of our salvation, was the love of God. Not just experiencing the love of God, but, also giving this love to others as well. The desire of the worldly heart is to experience love as well, but, not to share that love with others, but to keep all to themselves. Just because everyone else is doing something, does not make it right, does not make it Godly, does not make it true, to us and our salvation.

Romans 12: 2,....and do not be conformed to this world....

Through salvation, our renewed spirit is totally different from the old nature, and is in complete agreement with Godliness, but, the flesh, or the old nature is not renewed, so therefore all, the old habits are still embedded within. In order, to get the old self to fall in line with the new spirit and the Holy Spirit within us, then we must be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

The more we renew our mind, the more we follow after the obedience of Gods word, the less we follow after what everyone else is doing, the more we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us in the pathway that God would have us to go.

Psalms 1: 1 – 6,....blessed is the man, who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly....but his delight is in the law of the Lord....he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water....and what ever he does shall prosper....

For we as Christians, to have a desire to be like surrounding cultures, would be disastrous to our spiritual life. The ungodly will turn away from Gods leadership in exchange for the way of the world. We as believers, must learn to obey Gods word.

We do this as we pray and seek Gods will for our lives. If we insist, God will give us exactly what we want, even though it is not something that he would desire us to have. By granting to us these desires, he is about to teach us a painful lesson.

God, will though, restore us completely, as we turn back to him, seek his forgiveness, and follow after him, and become obedient to his word.

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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