

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

7.5.2020

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.

Let a double portion be upon me.

2 Kings 2: 9 – 10

If there is an opportunity in our life for a great anointing or blessing, are we willing to go after it.

As Christians, we can become complacent and satisfied in our spiritual life in just knowing that we are going to heaven. Gods will for us is to live a more abundant life in him, rather than just being complacent. To do this, we must be willing to put our own plans aside and seek out what God has in store for us.

2 Kings 2: 9 – 10,....and so it was, when they had crossed over....ask what I shall do for you....please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me....

We must be willing to ask for a double portion, meaning salvation. God created us to be more than mediocre. He created us to persevere, to strive, to go through, to overcome, to obtain victory.

2 Kings 2: 9,....so it was, when they had crossed over....

In the Old Testament the Jordan river separated that which was desert, barren, dry, fruitless, worthless land from that which was lush, rich land, fruitful, the word says a land flowing with milk and honey.

In our lives today, we must make that choice to cross over. To cross over from worldliness to Godliness. To accept the salvation of Jesus Christ.

#1 To do this, first of all, we must let go of the old nature. We cannot move forward and stay in the same place at the same time.

Romans 12:9,....let love be without hypocrisy, abhor what is evil, cling to what is good....

Love with hypocrisy is worldly. Living by moral standards or worldly behavior and pretense.

Galations 5: 19 – 21,....the works of the flesh are, adultery, fornication, uncleanness,....those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God....

To walk after the flesh is to seek after the things of life and try to accomplish them on our own.

The flesh is what we do in our own power, in our own strength, the things that I think that I can do by my own achievement, it is a form of self righteousness.

To overcome we must walk by faith. Through meditation of the word, we can pattern our lives after Christ. By trusting in him, and through salvation, we turn from the sin and wickedness of the world to Christ.

We learn to despise the evil, and cling to the goodness of God. The goodness of God is our salvation.

Titus 2: 11 – 14,....for the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men....who gave himself for us, from every lawless deed, and purify for himself his own special people, zealous for good works....

Gods grace enters a persons life, it penetrates the heart and begins to dramatically change things. It is not to offset the darkness, but to disperse it.

Grace does not force us to do anything, but, has the power to teach, to train, to discipline, to guide and to lead us. In order for this to happen, we must devote ourselves to the obedience of Gods word.

#2 Secondly, we must be willing to go through a transformation.

Romans 12: 1 – 2,....do not be conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind....

Before we can think about serving God through the spiritual gifts given unto us through the indwelling Holy Spirit, this transformation must take place.

We must choose to become a living sacrifice to God. When we turn to God in obedience, we turn away from the worlds influence, and turn to Gods infinite wisdom contained in his word, conveyed to us by the Holy Spirit, transforming our thoughts and our actions to reflect those of Christ in our life.

2 Corinthians 4: 16 – 18,....the inward man is being renewed day by day....

This transformation is an ongoing process in our Christian life. How it progresses is up to us. God is willing and ready, we must show him our desire. Through sacrificing worldliness, and each day spending more and more time in his word, and through prayer, maturing in the goodness of our salvation.

Philippians 1: 6,....being confident of this very thing, that he who has begun a good work in you will complete it, until the day of Jesus Christ....

God's sanctification process in us, which started with our salvation, will continue on, to full completion and perfection until the day Christ comes to take his own. The work being performed within the life of each believer is a work of God and not a work of our own flesh. God alone started the work at the time of our salvation, and God alone will complete it.

#3 Thirdly, we must walk in the favor of God, learning to live in his blessings, whether through trials and tribulations or victories. God did not say it would come easy, but, he did say it would come, if we continue to have faith and believe.

Ephesians 2: 8,....for by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God....

Our own efforts cannot earn us God's favor, it is given only by faith in his son, Jesus Christ.

As sinners, intellectually, we are able to read the context of the gospel of Christ, but we lack the understanding and ability to believe in the word.

Through God's gift, and the working of the Holy Spirit, we are able to receive from God, that which he has freely given to us through Christ and the cross.

2 Kings 2: 9,....what may I do for you....please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me....

God is always willing to give us all the help that we need to complete the task that he has in store for us.

Elisha, was being chosen by God to be Elijah's successor.

1 Kings 19: 16,....and Elisha....you shall anoint as prophet in your place....

God took both, Elijah and Elisha on a journey. First to Bethel, a place of history and of promise and of faith. Second, they went to Jericho, a place of learning how to worship and give glory to God. Third, they went to the place where Elisha would witness Elijah being taken into heaven, and the power of God was given to Elisha.

This was a type of Christ, with his disciples, and the journey that they took together, and passed on to us. First, Christ took his disciples to a place to teach them to believe on him and his word. Second, he took them to a place he could build their confidence and trust in him. Third, he took them to the place of his transfiguration, where he ascended into heaven.

God used the anointing on Elisha, that was sent back from Elijah when he was taken into heaven to represent the coming of the Holy Spirit, given on the day of Pentecost, after the ascension of Christ into heaven.

All Christians, in this grace dispensation period are represented by Elisha. The one who received the double portion, who went back to the Jordan river, smiting it and parting it. This demonstration of the power of God symbolizes the possibilities that we have as Christians, in accomplishing Gods work, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The double portion, did not mean that Elisha received twice the power of God that Elijah had. It means he received what was given to the first born son of each Hebrew family. The first born son always received a double portion.

In this grace dispensation period, through salvation, we are considered the first born. We do not have to ask for a double portion, we have received the full anointing of the Holy Spirit, through salvation.

As believers, we have the spirit and the life of God within us. We are called to be a living testimony of the love and the life of Christ.

Elisha returned in the spirit and power of Elijah. Elijah had tremendous power and passion to see Gods people turn from their wicked ways and serve the Lord.

Christ had tremendous power and passion, enough to be crucified on the cross, so that those who turn from their wicked ways might have salvation and eternal life.

We, through salvation have the power and passion of the Holy Spirit within us. The same tremendous power and passion to see lost souls turn from their wicked ways and serve the Lord.

Where there is an inward working of Christ, in the life of the believer, there should also be an outflowing of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Our Double Portion.

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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