

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

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.

Samsons Final Victory

Judges 16: 21 – 31

Are you blinded by sinfulness. The first time we allowed this to happen in our Christian life, it was a great struggle for us. We knew that we were doing wrong, and the conviction which came by the Holy Spirit was so great that it brought forth the feeling of regret and remorse, and afterward, the humbleness that led to forgiveness in our life. Unfortunately, this was not the only happening of this in our lives. The next time we allowed it to happen, the struggle was not as great. Each time this happens, it becomes easier to deal with, until we no longer struggle with it in our lives. Sin, desensitizes our spiritual life. We find that it is possible, through sinfulness, to remove oneself from the will of God, without even realizing it.

Judges 16: 21 – 31,....the philistine took him, and put out his eyes....

Just as Samson found out in his life, so we do in ours, that playing with sinfulness will always bring consequences in our lives through Gods impending judgement. We may think that we will get away with it, but the outcome in our life will result in spiritual blindness.

John 9: 39 – 41,....do you believe in the Son of God....you have both seen him and it is he who is talking to you....if you were blind, you would have no sin, but now you say, we see, therefore sin remains....

Admitting spiritual blindness in our life is a very hard place to get to. We refuse to listen to anything which goes against our understanding. If it contradicts our tradition, or the way we have been taught, then it clearly must be wrong. We deny Gods obvious attempt to help us to maintain control in our life. The word of God is always right, but we refuse to see it. We do not want to be in the place where we have to admit that we do not understand, and that we are wrong, We are spiritually blind.

Judges 16:22,....howbeit, the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven....

The conviction of the indwelling Holy Spirit will have a redeeming effect upon our lives if we will listen to his leadership and his guidance. Trials and tribulations, that come about due to our sinfulness, God brings into our lives, to bring us back into the reality of our salvation. As we begin to realize that this emptiness in our life, is the need once again for our relationship with God, then we will begin to grow and mature in his love.

Hosea 6: 1 – 3,....come, and let us return to the Lord....let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord....

At times in our life, we will experience spiritual blindness due to our lack of the knowledge of God in our lives, because of our disinterest in the God of our salvation, due to our interest of things in this world. We take comfort in knowing that despite the times when we wander away from God, his initial response will be discipline and chastisement, but, he is also longsuffering toward us, to bring us back into his righteousness, when we repent and turn back to him.

Judges 16: 28,....and Samson called unto the Lord....remember me....strengthen me....that I may be avenged....

Despite Samsons past, God still loved Samson. Despite our past, God still loves us. Every situation can be salvaged if we are willing to turn back to God. He is willing to hear our confession of repentance, no matter how long we might find ourselves away from God, he is ready and waiting to hear, and restore our relationship with him.

Acts 2: 21,....and it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord, shall be saved....

Here, in Peters sermon on the day of pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was given, Peter was quoting a passage of scripture from Joel 2: 28 – 32....who was speaking to a backsliden Israel, to repent and return to God.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord, has been called by the Lord. We cannot call upon him if we have not the faith, and believe in him. Our, salvation, has no limitations, we recognize that we are helpless and cannot save ourselves. Our faith in Christ comes through the promises of God, found in his word. As we mature and grow in Gods word, we understand that we cannot rely on our own righteousness, instead, we must rely on Gods righteousness, which comes through Christ and the cross.

Judges 16: 30,....and Samson said, let me die with the philistines....

Samson had made his heart right with God, and therefore God gave him back his strength. This did not, however, spare him from the consequences of his previous careless lifestyle in the world. Samson, knowing that the usefulness of his life on this earth was over, did not lose faith, did not give up, but, continued to serve God up until the time of his death. By his own death, God gave him the strength to overcome his enemies, and bring honor to God.

Mark 8: 34 – 38,....for whosoever desires to save his life will lose it, but, whosoever loses his life for my sake and the gospels will save it....

In order for salvation to work for us, we must deny oneself and dedicate ourselves to him. Christ, who gave his life for us on the cross, so that we might have salvation and life eternal. Christ does not ask us to give our very life as well, but does ask that in return for his life on the cross, that we would carry the same love and compassion within us that he bore on the cross.

We need to be consistent and constant in our dedication to Christ. We must not be for Christ one day and the world the next. We must express our desire and dedication to follow Christ example, along with the understanding of Gods word.

Christ is aware of the deception in this world, but, gives us the means to resist temptation, and not fall prey to deception. It prophets us nothing to follow after worldliness.

Lesson Notes:

There are consequences to sin, even after God has forgiven us.

God shows us grace, even though we do not deserve it.

It is better to suffer in righteousness, than to perish in unrighteousness.

Though we make mistakes, God is always ready to turn them around for his purpose.

God still has, and always will have, a plan for our life.

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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