

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

January 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.

Still small voice.

## **1 Kings 19: 11 – 13.**

Long ago, through the scripture we are shown many ways that God spoke through his prophets, to his people. He spoke through, whirlwinds, earthquakes, lightnings and thundering's. In this grace dispensation period, God speaks to us through his Son, by the Holy Spirit.

The difference between God speaking in the way that he did through the prophets of old, and to the believers in the grace dispensation period, shows the difference between the time of the law and this period of grace.

The law had to be given, and enforced, by God, through the mighty power of his might, but the gospel is a gentle voice of love, grace, mercy, peace, and the righteousness of Christ, through the free gift of salvation.

The law, through the mighty power of God, broke the hearts of men, shook their consciences, and filled their minds with a sense of Gods fiery wrath and punishment, that they deserved.

The gospel speaks quietly to all, of peace and pardon, available in Christ through salvation.

More importantly, what do we do with what the gospel tells us. God speaks very clearly to us through his word. The more we learn of his word, the more we will be able to recognize, when he speaks the truth of it to us, the more likely we are to be obedient to him.

The one thing we must be very careful of, is, by whom the gospel is preached and the way it is presented.

**1 Kings 19: 11 – 13**,....and after the fire, a still small voice....

The Lord told Elijah to stand on the mountain, in his presence. The Lord did not come, in the way that Elijah was expecting, the wind, the earthquake, the fire. He came in a gentle whisper.

Elijah, was being shown that Gods work, need not always be accompanied by dramatic manifestations of his power.

Instead of waiting for the perfect condition to talk with the Lord, or allowing ourselves to believe we need something grand to enter into his presence, we need just to allow the Holy Spirit to remind us of Gods word.

As we learn to silence the worldliness, those things meant to distract us, to confuse us, to fill us with anxiety and worry, then, we begin to find peace, through Christ and his word.

As Christians, we must learn that God does not need to interact with us through the extraordinary, he easily interacts with us through the ordinary. We must ask ourselves, are we so focused on the extraordinary, that we, often times miss Gods message.

For example, how many times do we hear some one bragging about the way the music sounded, the way the singers sang, the way the preacher preached. But, stop and think for a moment, we only remember the actions, because they were extraordinary, but often or not, we never remember the song or the message.

**Zechariah 4: 6**,....this is the word of the Lord....not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of host....

As Christians, we must come to the understanding that the Lord himself will carry out his plans, which he alone has purposed. We may not know how God will carry out his plan and purpose for our life, nevertheless, it is our responsibility to live by faith, in God, and to trust in his word. In our life we will face the pressures of temptations, that we may feel is overwhelming our faith, and trust in the Lord. We realize that the word of the Lord is still just as true today as it was long ago during the time of the prophets and the law.

In, the midst of our weaknesses, God, cares for us, his weary servants. He does this, not with tremendous or overwhelming circumstances, but he conquers our heart with a still small voice.

**2 Peter 2: 1 – 3**,...false prophets among the people....false teachers among you, who will bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord....many will follow their destructive ways....they will exploit you with deceptive words....

As Christians, we will encounter false teachers. They will, rise up from within the church. Man, will claim to be Christians, but, teach things that contradict Gods word.

What do they want, money, and, they are willing to distort Gods word to gain worldly wealth from his people.

To protect ourselves, we must study and meditate on Gods word, as to understand what we are hearing and seeing from the influence among us.

**Matthew 24: 23 – 24**,...Christ himself said that during the great tribulation period, false prophets will rise up and show great signs and wonders....

**Acts 20: 29 – 30**,...savage wolves will come among you, not sparing the flock, from yourselves men will rise up....draw away the disciples after themselves....

We live in a day, that we tolerate happenings instead of taking them to God in prayer. Even in the church, good feelings take priority over sound doctrine. People do not question whether teachings are biblical, for fear of being implicated, that they are not acting with the love of Christ, if, we are questioning their teaching's and preaching's.

As Christians, we must guard against false teachers, but to be able to do so, we must be doctrinally knowledgeable. We must know the truth of our salvation, which comes by, and is, the word of God.

**1 Timothy 1: 19,....**having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith, have suffered shipwreck....

When we fall prey to the deceptiveness of false teachers, we purposely are rejecting ourselves keeping a clear conscience. The word shipwreck is used to describe the deadly, worldly, selfish nature of rejecting a good conscience.

As Christians, we are instructed to cling to our faith in Christ and keep our conscience clear. We must trust in the word of God and yield to the Holy Spirit.

Christ, who gave us everything, who saved us from the penalty and power of sin and death, implores us to hold fast to our faith in him, as not to be deceived in our time of weakness.

**Hebrews 10: 22 – 24,....**let us draw near with a true heart....let us hold fast the confession of our hope....let us consider one another....

A heart of humility, a spirit of purity, an unblemished conscience. We have been purchased with the precious blood of Christ. As we recognize our own insufficiencies, we have confidence in Christ sufficiency, and draw near to him with our faith. Gods word is true, his promises are sure, and with a sincere heart, we, enter into Gods presence.

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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