

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

9.27.2020

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.

Our Spiritual Characteristics

Isaiah 11: 1 – 5

Is it impossible, to have wisdom without knowledge and understanding. Knowledge, which is the foundation on which all wisdom is based, and understanding is the key component of that wisdom. Knowledge requires, that we understand the facts of any given matter or situation that is taking place in our lives. This information, applies both, to the natural man and the spiritual man. The natural man, who has no future, because his realm of life is but temporary, is limited to the things that are happening in his life here and now. On the other hand, the spiritual man, is always preparing in this life, for the blessings, of his eternal life with God, which is to come.

Due to the fall of man, everyone starts out, driven by worldly values, and blind to the values of Gods eternal kingdom. Only through the free gift of salvation can we leave this natural man, with his worldly wisdom, knowledge and understanding, to live and to grow and to mature in the spiritual wisdom, knowledge and understanding that God has in store for us.

So where does our spiritual characteristics come from, how do we get them, and what is their influence and application on our life.

Isaiah 11: 1 – 5,....there shall come forth....the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him....his delight is in the fear of the Lord....righteousness, shall be the belt of his loins, and faithfulness, the belt of his waist....

So, to answer the question, where does our spiritual characteristics come from, should be easy for the believer to answer, they come from Christ. Isaiah, gives us this example, which is what Paul was trying to explain to the church at Corinth, when he was writing about the dead, and how they were going to be raised up.

1 Corinthians 15: 36 – 38,....what you sow is not made alive unless it dies....and what you sow, you do not sow that body, that shall be....but God gives it a body as he pleases....

Isaiah 11: 1,....There shall come forth a rod from the stem of Jesse, a branch shall grow out of its roots....

Jesse, who was king David's father, was a humble servant of God, who's family was insignificant and of no importance in the world, but, chosen by God, due to their humility. Because of his humility, Jesse bore the honor of the family name in spite of the glory of his son David the king. Although, there was nothing left now of David's lineage, due to it had been reduced to its most humble descendants, God would raise up a branch from a family tree that there was nothing left of, just a dead root.

It is truly miraculous, that just as the Father raised the Son, he raises us, through salvation, so that we may gain these same spiritual characteristics that was bestowed upon Christ, at his first coming.

Colossians 2: 13 – 14,....and you being dead in your trespasses....he has made alive together with him, having forgiven you, all trespasses....he has taken it out of the way, and nailed it to the cross....

How did we get the characteristics of Christ. We acquired them by accepting Gods saving grace, which came through Christ and the cross.

Now, let us take a look at how these characteristics influence our spiritual life, and how we apply them daily as we mature in Christ.

Isaiah 11: 2,....The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord....

What a great asset that we have in our lives as believers, the indwelling Holy Spirit. We have accepted the eternal plan of God the Father, because we believed in the saving grace that came through Christ, his Son, and the cross. We now have dwelling within us the presence of the Holy Spirit, and not just the mere presence of the Holy Spirit, but all of his abilities, so that we might gain these abilities as we grow and mature in our spiritual lives.

Galatians 5: 23,....against such there is no law....

Meaning, the gifts of the spirit. God will never allow anything to come into existence, that should hinder us from acknowledging and showing forth the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives through these abilities. These abilities are, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. We may allow the lust of the flesh to keep us from acknowledging these abilities, but if we walk in the spirit, then we will not fulfill these lust of the flesh.

Our spiritual maturity comes through this spirit of wisdom and understanding. How do we unlock this, that is in us.

2 Timothy 3: 14 – 15,....you must continue in the things which you have learned, and been assured of....and that from childhood you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make us wise for salvation, through faith, which is in Christ Jesus....

We unlock the wisdom and knowledge within us through study and meditation in Gods word. As believers, we maintain our faithfulness according to the teachings that we are already walking in. These truths, which we have established as our beliefs, that led us to our faith in Christ, brings us, into our spiritual maturity, in the wisdom and understanding of Gods word. Through his word, we learn to stand firm in our faith, we learn to know the truth of his word and see it as fact, we learn to trust in this word of God. We must remember, that nothing, is more important, in this sinful world then to walk in the light of the gospel of grace.

Isaiah 11: 2,....the spirit of counsel and might.

Ephesians 3: 14 – 15,....for this reason, I bow my knees to the Father....that he would grant you....to be strengthened with might through his spirit, in the inner man....

To receive the spirit of counsel and might, you must be filled with it. We are saved by God and we are filled by God. Salvation gets you into heaven, being filled puts heaven in you. This shows us what to do, and, gives us the power to do it. God given counsel and might builds on our fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 11: 2,....the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord....

Proverbs 9: 10,....the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy one is understanding....

Reverence and glory to God, provides the spiritual fulfillment in our life, which we seek. Life does not consist, in the amount of wealth which we possess, or the accomplishments that we have acquired, or the company that we keep, but, by seeing Gods plans and purpose for our life unfold. As we come to a deeper understanding of who God is, the more we immerse ourselves in the word of God, the more we confide in him through prayer, the greater that we discover the vastness of his eternal plans and purposes. To know Christ is to know God himself, Christ makes known to us the Father, the Father unveils to us the Son, and by him, indwells within us the Holy Spirit. This makes up the fullness of the wisdom, the knowledge, and the understanding of the Godhead within us, so that we may be one with him.

Pursuing our path of his spiritual characteristics that are within us, will help us to develop a greater joy, a greater peace, and an unconditional love, not only for ourselves in Christ, but also with all those that are around us. Through this, our goal, is to recognize those things that have eternal value, and to pursue them.

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.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowolfarm.com/>

