

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

9.20.2020

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.

Encompassing our Convictions

John 16: 7 – 11

Do we encompass or hold fast to our, convictions. Conviction, which means to convince, are personal convictions that reveal who we are. They are important in keeping us from being swayed by worldly opinions, which help us to endure temptations. Through, the word of God, and the leadership of the Holy Spirit, our personal convictions are brought to life. These convictions allow us to stand firm in the Lord and prove our faith. Without the conviction of the Holy Spirit, we become indecisive and easily lead astray with selfish desire and worldly gain.

John 16: 7 – 11,....it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I do not go away, the comforter will not come....when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin....

Christ, greatest gift to the world, was the Holy Spirit of conviction. Christ told his disciples, that even though, it made them sorrowful, he told them the truth. I am going away for your benefit, because if I stay, you will not get the benefit, from the helper, that I am going to send you.

Christ here was teaching the disciples, that they were able to rely solely on him, but, they were still going to have to learn to continue on in his absence, by faith. The helper he was sending, would now allow this to be possible. It would not work that way, if Christ, was still here, because they would continually run to him.

So, how was this helper going to obtain the attention of the disciples, as well as everyone else. He would do this through his convicting power.

We are going to look at three types of convictions that Christ mentions.

Before we do this, let us keep in mind that although the helper or the Holy Spirit was sent for every one's benefit, Christ personalized it by saying, I will send him to you. Christ was talking to the disciples as a group, which represented the whole world, and also, to them as individuals, to show them the personal relationship they would have with him.

#1 Of sin, which is convictions against that which the word of God forbids. Of sin because they do not believe in me.

#2 Of righteousness, which is convictions in favor of what the word of God promises. Of righteousness because I go to my Father.

#3 Of Judgement, which is conviction of future judgement, concerning what the word of God foretells. Of Judgement because the ruler of this world is judged.

The conviction of Sin.

First of all, to be saved, what convictions did we finally encompass that led to salvation.

John 6: 44,....No one can come to me except the Father draws him....

This all came about when Adam and Eve made the choice to know the difference between good and evil.

Genesis 3: 8,....and they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden....

This is the drawing of the Holy Spirit that Christ is talking about.

Ephesians 2: 1 – 10,....even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace are ye saved, and hath raise us up together....for we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them....

1 Thessalonians 1: 3,....remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love. And patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father....

You which he made alive, that was dead in trespasses, but, he made us alive, by showing kindness toward us, by his mercy and his grace, so therefore, we have been saved, through our faith in him.

It was not of ourselves, but, It is a gift from God, which he had prepared, before hand, and made us his workmanship.

Encompassing our convictions.

The gift of the Holy Spirit, which was given to us by God, as to prompt, or to yield the work of the Holy Spirit and conviction within each one of us as Christians.

So, let us talk about these three things that the Holy Spirit was sent to convict us on.

Sin, Righteousness, and Judgement.

John 16: 9,....Of sin because they do not believe on me....

The Holy Spirit of conviction is sent to the believers to encompass the witness of salvation, to those that do not believe, so that they might heed to the draw of the Father, to except the free gift of salvation and eternal life. This Holy Spirit, which is the conviction of righteousness, because I go to the Father, is promised by Gods word and assures his righteousness to us, and reveals it to the world.

Christ taught his disciples this, because I go, you will see me no more, but, because of my work, which was completed on the cross, Christ righteousness was now made available through salvation.

Acts 2:33,....being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which you now see and hear....

Titus 3: 4 -7,....after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour, toward man appeared....according to his mercy he saved us....and renewing of the Holy Ghost....which he shed on us abundantly....we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life....

Acts 1: 9 – 11,....while they beheld, he was taken up....they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up....this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner, as you have seen him go....

Christ, who was resurrected, now sits at the right hand of the Father, and this resurrection was for our salvation and justification.

Romans 5: 17 – 18,....for if by one man's offense death reigned....much more, they which receive....shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ....as by the offences of one, judgement came upon all....by the righteous of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life....

1 Thessalonians 5: 23,....I pray your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ....

God created us justly, which is righteously in his eyes. Through salvation, God brings his holiness to life within us, through the Holy Spirit, to conform us, to what he already sees in us to be. The Holy Spirit then reveals to us, the righteousness of Christ, since Christ is not here in person to do so. It also exposes sin, and warns us, of coming judgements.

The Holy Spirit which also is called the conviction of judgement, reveals to us what the word of God foretells, concerning future judgements. The ruler of this world, Satan, due to Adam, through sinfulness, relinquished his right as ruler, is judged, which results will be eternal damnation, not only for him but for those who reject Christ and follow after Satan.

Hebrews 2: 14 -15,....he also himself likewise took part in the same, that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil....and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage....

Christ, who came, and although he shared in the same, did not sin himself, but, shared in the sorrow that sin brought about, overcame the power of death, so that we might partake of his saving grace.

1 John 3:8,....he that committeth sin is of the devil....for this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil....

Christ, who was manifested by God, so that he might destroy the works of Satan, judged and defeated Satan, by the cross and the resurrection. Through this we learn, that as we, through faith, except this grace, that God gave unto us through Christ, that now, we do not have to succumb to sin.

Colossians 2: 13 – 15,....you, being dead in your sins....hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses....took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross....triumphing over them in it....

We see this again and again, that even though we were dead in our trespasses and sins, he made us alive, due to that he forgave us our trespasses, which was made possible by Christ and the cross. Christ disarmed the principalities and powers of darkness by nailing it to the cross, which allows us to be victorious and triumph over it.

This gracious work, brought mankind to recognize, their need to turn to Christ, to stop falling prey to the temptation of Satan, and to quit serving the world. We need, the persuasion of the Holy Spirit, to allow us to see and understand the evil, before we can appreciate and follow after the goodness of God.

Revelation 20: 1 - 3, 10,....I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand....and he laid hold on....Satan, and bound him a thousand years....and cast him into the bottomless pit and shut him up....

The devil , first will be bound and cast into the bottomless pit. Then, the devil, the beast and the false prophet will be cast into the lake of fire, where they will be tormented day and night, forever. Satan will be judged, his followers will be judged, and although this judgement will not be obtained in this life, it will be a future judgement by God himself.

Personal convictions are just that, they are personal. It is the work of our conscience, that convinces us to make decisions, right or wrong. They are, our decisions , and we cannot blame them on anyone else.

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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