

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

1.24.2021

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.

Choosing Whom we will Serve

Genesis 19: 15 – 26

Life for humanity means, that we are always looking forward to where we should be going in our spiritual life with God, or looking back into the past, to where we have come from, and to what we have left behind, or to what we are living in now and have become comfortable in, and do not want to change. God's word gives us warnings of things to come but sadly we do not believe, and therefore ignore these warnings due to disobedience, and this destroys our life in Christ. Our refusal to listen, to learn, to obey Gods word, causes us to become our own worst enemy. We allow our past life to become more real to us than the truth of God's word. Mankind looks at life, as something with no real significance, day to day we live our life, and we look at our life in the same manner that the world looks at it, this is not how Christ I sees us. God knows each of us personally, and sees us for who we truly are.

Psalm 100:3,....it is he that hath created us and not we ourselves....

God gives unto us every opportunity to get our life going in the direction that he would have us to go, and that is to be delivered from the sinfulness of this world. We will all leave this world one day, according to Gods timing, and after death, we are going to experience the eternal status in which we have chosen.

Colossians 1: 12 – 13,....giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints....he has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of his love....

We are either going to spend an eternity in hell, or we will live eternally in heaven with the Lord. Life upon this earth can either be one of greater blessings, or one of misery in the world. The result of our life, rest, in the daily decisions that we make.

Genesis 19: 15 - 26,....when the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here....and they brought him out and set him outside the city....escape for your life, do not look behind you, nor stay anywhere in the plain....but his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt....

Sodom is an example of a world without God. It pictures a world that is ugly and repulsive, but also one that is attractive, sophisticated, and prosperous. So, even though as Christians we know that worldliness is corrupt and under Gods judgement, it still shows an appeal of temptation to our human nature.

1 John 2: 16,....for all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world....

We must remember that even though this world is full of sinfulness and corruption, Satan is going to make it enticing and even though we know this to be true, we also know it is destined for destruction by God.

Hebrews 11: 24 – 25,....by faith Moses, when he became of age....choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season....

Lot, like many believers today was trying to live for the best of both worlds. Moving to Sodom, was not to do the work of the Lord, but to gain worldly wealth.

Genesis 13: 10 – 11,....Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plains of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord....Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan....

False prophets will tell us that Christ, will prosper us, here and now in this world. They will also tell us that he will help us to overcome personal problems, reach worldly goals, succeed in business, and prosper in everything in our life. Heaven, then to them, is just an added bonus to our salvation, and to thus that bring deception, it does not sell as well as the lure of worldly success, but people still tend to follow after this type of religion.

If we would see the world for what it truly is, we would not be so willing to live for the vain, sinful things, that the world has to offer. We live in a world, surrounded by so much deception, that we often will overlook its sinfulness. That is why we must keep our eyes upon the Lord, we must remain obedient to his word, and we must follow after his instruction, all the while willing to keep his desires as our objective in our life.

Romans 12: 2,....and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God....

Genesis 19: 5,....the angels urged Lot to hurry....

Even as a believer, living in sin causes us to develop a comfort for it. It can become a pattern for our life that is very difficult to move away from. God is the only one that can bring us out of sin. We cannot be saved by our own efforts or initiative.

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

Staying in a place of sin, with only the hope of our own self deliverance, will not save us. Each one controls the destiny of their own life by the decisions that they make. Those who do not spiritually mature in the Lord, find it difficult to make the decision to leave the comfort level they have acquired through the world.

Isaiah 49: 8,....thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time, have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee, and I will preserve thee....

2 Corinthians 6: 2,....behold, now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation....

When we become satisfied with this current life, then we begin to neglect our spiritual needs. Even though we begin to understand the gospel and how important it is to preach the word of salvation, we tend to put off the decision to do so. We must be aware, that all our plans are subject to Gods will. Although, we have been given free will to make our own decisions, it is vital that we yield to the Lord Jesus Christ, and accept his free gift of salvation.

James 4: 14,....for what is your life, it is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away....

Genesis 19: 26,....but his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt....

There are choices that we must make in our Christian life. Some are easy, some are not, but all are very important in our life in Christ. These choices should be made according to our discernment of the word.

Jeremiah 29: 13,....you will seek me and find me, when you seek me with your whole heart....

In order, to discern Gods word, we must seek him through his word. God will always speak to us through his word but, often times we are not obedient, due to the fact that we want a different answer then what he is giving unto us. Worldliness clutters our mind with distractions and mis directions so that we cannot focus on the word of God.

2 Peter 2: 2 – 3,....and many will follow their destructive ways....by covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words....

Just as it was in Lots day, the world that we live in is tolerant of false doctrine and deception. The church itself does not see it as such a big deal due, to the fact that these false teachers which are among us, in the body of Christ, are a part of our lives. We, as believers, must be alert, which means, that we cannot waiver in our faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 10: 30 – 31,....vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord....the Lord will judge his people, it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God....

Choices that we make determine the outcome of our life. By the grace of God, we move ever forward in our Christian life. We are forgiven, so we forgive, we forget what is behind and live in the newness of our life in Christ.

Philippians 3: 13,....this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before....

We must take those things in our life, that are of the world, that seem to be urgent and set them aside, separating them from those things that are of greater importance, to the obedience of God's word, and his will.

As a child of God, we must seek to lift up the Lord Jesus Christ, and glorify his name. We bring our body, soul, and spirit under the subjection of the Holy Spirit, so that we may keep our eyes on the goal of our calling in God. In this we will see, and know, that Christ is our joy, our strength, and our sufficiency, to do his will, and to be obedient to his word.

Luke 21: 28,....and when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh....

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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