

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

8.22.2021

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 God's word.

Peter and John Preach with Boldness

Acts 4: 6 – 21

As believers we ought to trust in God rather than being unhappy within our current circumstance. Through faith we know that when God says he will care for us, then what possible reason would we have to fear the worldly circumstances here upon this earth. Therefore, we must stand bold in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. This will come by taking all that God shows us through the scripture, and simply trusting in his word. It is only then that our life will fall into God's perspective for us. God's attributes are unchangeable, and all through his word he shows unto us this unchangeable nature by demonstrating to us the difference between a life of boldness and trusting in him, and a life lived in doubting unbelief.

Hebrews 13: 6,....so that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me....

God's word gives unto us comfort, all the while showing unto us that the Lord loves us, and promises to show unto us his goodness, and the fulness of his love, so that we might see him as our helper in every situation.

Acts 4: 6 – 7,....as many as were of the kindred of the high priest , were gathered together at Jerusalem. And when they had set them in the midst, they said, by what power, or by what name, have ye done this....

Humanity will believe that they are under their own authority, so therefore their beliefs are of their own fulfillment, and are not of God. What they cannot see is that due to being blinded by this worldly deception, their own authority has limits. But through faith in Christ, he has declared unto us his righteousness, and through justification, he has made us his eternal heirs. This justification, which came through the work and power of the Holy Spirit now gives unto us the boldness to live by his grace through faith in Christ, and the ability to continue to walk in spirit and in truth.

John 14: 13,....and whatsoever you ask in my name I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son....

If we back up into chapter three, verse six, it says, silver and gold I do not have, but such as I have, give I thee, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk. Everything that we do should be governed by the will of God. We will never have the boldness of God by acting upon our own will or on the will of others. Those who truly love God will seek to do according to his will. True life is dependent upon true belief in Christ. We understand that as a Christian, through faith in Christ, and the fact that the Holy Spirit dwells within us, that we have the boldness to do great works in Christ, all to the glory of God.

Acts 4: 8 – 10,....if we this day be examined of the good deed done....by what means he is made whole....be it known unto you all....that by the name of Jesus Christ....whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole....

Defending ourselves before humanity can become confusing. If we are not careful, our boldness in Christ can turn into worldly fear, which will cause our spiritual character to become greatly annoyed and can steer us away from the truth of God's word. If we continue to strive in our willingness to be a witness to Christ and the cross, eventually, some will listen. We must continue in our boldness to be an example of our salvation to humanity, who believes that this life is all that they have, and they will do whatever necessary to protect it.

Acts 4: 11 - 12,....this is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner, neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved....

There are those, whom we will meet in our life, that will claim, that they have made the way to the kingdom of God possible. Sadly, they do not comprehend themselves the basis of the kingdom of God. Thankfully they are not the true central figure of the church. Christ is the way, the truth and the life, and no one comes to the Father, except by him. God is the only means by which any person can enter, into the kingdom of God. Through Christ and his word, our sin is confronted, and we are warned, that unless we repent, there is no salvation, nor is there any refreshing for our souls. Christ is the risen King, the corner stone which holds the building together, the all knowing creator, the one who sustains the world.

Isaiah 43: 11,....I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no savior....

Gods message to us is to be bold, and not to fear the worldly circumstances of life. God will fulfill his promises, because he is the sovereign God of the universe, and as a result, we should not fear what the world can do unto us.

Acts 4: 13 – 17,....when they saw the boldness....they perceived they were unlearned....they conferred among themselves, saying, what should we do to these men....indeed a notable miracle has been done....and we cannot deny it....let us....threaten them....that they speak henceforth to no man in this name....

A lot of humanity does not want to believe that Christ resurrection was possible. The word of God clearly shows unto us that through signs and miracles that it was possible, and that it did take place. Therefore mankind, even though they do not want to admit it, they must recognize it as something that took place. So, instead then of denying Christ crucified and resurrected, and the opportunity of salvation, they now try to stop the spread of the knowledge of the word of God. Those who therefore oppose Christ, now join forces to try to do away with the credibility of those who do believe. Down through the church age, most opposition to the gospel has come from other religious establishments, who are threatened by the power of the truth of salvation. This means that as the truth of the gospel is preached, it threatens their own power and wealth, by taking away the credibility of the deception that is being brought forth by their false teachings and doctrine. Our boldness will soon be recognized, not because we were trained according to worldly wisdom in a facility brought about by mankind, but Christians will be recognized due to being Christlike, because we have been living with Christ, growing in his faith and love, spiritually maturing in his wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

Acts 4: 18 – 21,....and they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus....Peter and John answered and said....we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard....further threatened them....they let them go....finding nothing....for all men glorified God for that which was done....

We are taught by the word of God that due to our faith in Christ and the cross that we are going to suffer persecution. We are also taught that even though there will be earthly torments and sufferings, that God will forever remain faithful to those who remain faithful to him. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and through our obedience to his word, we will reach that place where Christ wants us to be in him. We must remain bold, and trust in God's plan, rather than fearing ungodly, worldly religious authorities. In order for this to happen, we must ask God for the courage to stand in the truth of what he has proven to be faithful to us, through our service to him. So therefore, we must study the word, pray without ceasing, and allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, so that we may look for opportunities to share the gospel of salvation, boldly, without fear.

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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