

## *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

10.17.2021

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.

Our Claim To Christ

### **John 8: 48 – 59**

How do we respond when we are in the midst of controversy, when worldliness is combined with Godliness, when conversations become increasingly intense with offensive accusations, do we respond with emotional worldly wisdom, or do we respond with nothing but the truth, and the wisdom of Gods word, remaining completely unmoved, or motivated by our worldly human nature. We must never seek to honor ourselves, only to honor, and to glorify God. Mankind is committed to rejecting the message of Christ, because it is not what they want to hear. Hatred, dishonesty, violence, all projected over the truth, due to the fact, that they are more interested in protecting their reputation than they are in, following after the gospel, that is being revealed by God. As a Christian, on the other hand, we must show, that every word of the gospel of Christ, is meant to bring glory to God the Father, and not ourselves.

**John 8: 48 – 59,....**Jesus answered....I honor my Father....and I seek not my own glory....verily, verily, I say unto you, if a man keep my word, he shall never see death....if any man keeps my word he shall never taste death....but I do know him and keep his word....

There is one who seeks to glorify Christ, and that is the Father, and there is one who seeks to glorify God, and that is the Son. We as believers, seek to honor the Son, and to glorify the Father. This is accomplished by submitting to the work that God has given unto us to do. Christ, as an example to us, demonstrated that, in everything that he accomplished in his earthly ministry, was intended to glorify the Father. Christ words, his mission, his accomplishments, all pointed to, and gave credit to God. Because this message conflicted with what mankind wanted to believe, they then refused to believe in it, therefore they never came to understand it. This led to controversy, and conflict on the part of Christ adversaries.

**Isaiah 53: 2,....**for he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground, he hath no form or comeliness, and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him....

Humbleness is the key to glorifying God. For our benefit Christ was born in the likeness of a man, he lived a sinless life, was made sin for us, took our punishment upon himself for our salvation, to the glory of God. Without salvation, man cannot see the glory of God, because Satan blinds the eyes of the believer.

**John 8: 49 – 51,....**I honor my Father....I do not seek my own glory, there is one who seeks and judges, most assuredly I say to you, if anyone keeps my word he shall never see death....

There is a reason why many, refuse to listen to the gospel of God's grace. It is because they have allowed the god of this world to establish a place within their mind, through sinful deception. For this reason, although they hear the truth, they ignore it, they heard the gospel, and they chose not to believe it, they have been given the opportunity to accept the gospel of salvation and rejected it. Their daily unbelief becomes more and more firmly established in their hearts, until their minds are blinded to the truth of the gospel.

**1 Peter 5: 6,....**humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that they may exalt you in due time....

When we show humility to others, when we show submission to the word, it means that we are learning to appreciate our relationship with God. Humility is not thinking less of ourselves but it is thinking of ourselves less. Our humility in service to God is, a declaration of our trust in God, which brings glory and recognition to his name.

**Philippians 2: 5 – 8,....**let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men, and being found in the fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient to death, even the death of the cross....

Christ was born to become the representative for all humanity, and upon himself, rest the salvation of the whole human race. He was sent by the Father, to pay the price for the sins of the whole world, through his sacrificial death. Although there will be many who deny and reject his perfection, there will be multitudes who will believe. By his death, he destroyed the power of sin and death in the lives of all who will trust in him.

**John 8: 54 – 55,....**Jesus answered, if I honor myself, my honor is nothing, it is my Father that honoreth me....ye have not known him....but I know him....but I do know him and keep his word....

Mankind will use insults and accusations to challenge, and to invoke that which they feel to be their superiority over God's children. This deception, and confusion, brought about by the false prophets of our time is that which is trying to turn us from the truthfulness of our salvation, in an effort to get us to deny the word of God. Christ however teaches us through his word, that the most humble response, that we can give unto those that are challenging our faith in God, is to simply speak a truthful, simple, consistent message from God.

**Matthew 5: 43 - 48,....**bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you....therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect....

God's word teaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Sadly, there are religious leaders that teach that it is ok to disregard, and even hate those that we feel to have a difference of opinion, other than what we believe. God's intention for the righteousness of mankind goes beyond this selfish way of worldly thinking. Christ requires us to look at the world in a completely different way, and that way is through spiritual eyes. Through obedience to the word of God, we will learn to offer up prayers of salvation, instead of condemnation for those who spitefully use us.

**John 3: 17,....**for God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved....

Christ came to save, not to condemn. God would prefer that all would come to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, however, he does give unto us the ability to choose. Salvation is through Christ and no one else, and the offer of salvation is for everyone. Being Christlike means that our desires is what Gods desires for us, and his desire for us to seek and to save those which are lost. Our purpose as Christians is the salvation of all mankind, condemnation has no place in this.

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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