

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

10.31.2021

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.

Rebellion of the People

Numbers 14: 1 – 12

How should we as Christians respond to suffering in our lives. We either suffer from the consequences of sinfulness or we suffer from a result of making known our belief in Christ. Have we ever thought that it might be Gods will that we are suffering. We should not be surprised to be called upon to suffer, which may be from hardships, or even abuse from the world, for the sake of Christ and his saving grace. Remember, those who are doing the persecuting may just very well be attracted to and convicted by our message. Showing our hopefulness in the midst of our suffering, will lead others into the conviction of their own sinfulness in their life. God will use our suffering to bring others to faith in his Son, Christ, if we will allow him to. We do not always know the reasoning behind the will of God, but we do know that this suffering will eventually bring blessings, both for ourselves and the world around us, if we are obedient to God's word, and follow after his will.

1 Peter 3: 14 – 17,....if ye suffer for righteousness sake, happy are ye....sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to every man....having a good conscience....for it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing....

Numbers 14: 1 – 4,....all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried, and the people wept that night....all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron....wherefore hath the Lord brought us into this land....were it better for us to return to Egypt....they said to one another....let us return to Egypt....

Negative reports, whether given by ourselves or by others, only brings about worldly fear, without the possibility of any eternal hope from God. We are a single soul that is one part of a whole in the body of Christ. Therefore, what we bring forth and present to the rest of the body can no doubt bring all the rest into the same destructive mindset that we find ourselves in. When this happens, we begin to take our eyes off God, and once again look toward what we feel to be the comfort and security of the worldliness that God has brought us out of. This does not only distract our spiritual maturity, but also influences the decision making of others in the body of Christ, and before we realize what has happened, we have started a movement, that the end result can only be spiritual destruction, and devastation.

1 Corinthians 1: 8 – 10,....for we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble....we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life....we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead....who delivered us....and doth deliver....in who we trust that he will yet deliver us....

As Christians, we possess the confidence that God can and will confirm, strengthen, and sustain us. We must remember that this can only happen through obedience in him without any dependance on what we do, but on what Christ has done for us. We are only able to share in the truth of his gospel as we choose to live according to his will and not according to our own fleshly lust, which lacks true spiritual maturity. The only one who can sustain us to the end is God, due to the fact that, we are clothed in his spirit, through the righteousness of Christ. Through the obedience of our salvation, God will firmly, and fully establish our hope of eternal life, which we have, through the gospel of his Son, Jesus Christ.

Numbers 14: 5 – 9,....then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces....and Joshua....and Caleb....rent their clothes....if the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into the land....only rebel not ye against the Lord....the Lord is with us....

Often times believers will choose fear over faith. We choose not to trust in God, and to fear man instead. This comes about due to temptation and disobedience to God. We fear the unknown, and this is the object of temptation. Temptation that is designed to get us to become anxious, and to worry, which causes us not to trust in God. If we will allow him to do so, God will help us, to choose faith over fear in everything that we do.

1 John 4: 18 – 19,....there is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear....he that feareth is not made perfect in love....we love him because he first loved us....

Worldly fear cannot coexist with Godly faith, hope, and love. The person who allows worldly fear to rule their life has not yet reached the mature love that God desires for his children. In the life of the believer, worldly fear can be rendered powerless by Gods love if we will so choose. Love is the fruit of Gods spirit, and the fruit of love is not fear. There is no fear in love, for the perfect love of God drives out all fear. Every aspect of Christs redeeming work on the cross was designed to deliver us from the grasp of worldly fear. Our confidence is in the Lord, and we must never forget that Christs perfect love is not selfish, or immature, or a childish love that tries to take advantage of worldly emotional situations. God's love is mature, and responsible, it is patient, and it is kind. It does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but shows mercy and grace to all. God's love, which comes through his Son, Christ, is the greatest gift of all.

Numbers 14: 10 – 12,....and the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel....and the Lord said....how long will this people provoke me....how long will it be ere they believe me....I will smite them with pestilence, and dishearten them, and will make of thee a great nation and mightier than they....

We must not allow worldly temptation to deceive us into believing that God will never punish us for our wrongdoings. God has always been faithful to us, so why do we fail to put our trust in him, and rebel against the commandments of his word. Unless Gods people unite in faith, any possible venture is doomed to fail. Many go beyond the reach of God's grace and could not care less. Therefore, we must remember that there are temporary and eternal consequences to those who reject Gods saving grace. Gods promise of salvation comes about through faith. God will bless those who trust in his promises and follow him completely. Sooner or later, everyone will receive the results of deeds done. We must make sure that our consequences are not God's judgements and wrath because we did not believe in his promises, nor were we obedient to his word. Let us make sure our consequences are that of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hebrews 3: 12 – 13,....take heed brethren, lest there be any of you of an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God....exhort one another daily....lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin....

The deception of sin will cause us to murmur and complain and mistreat God's word. Disobedience to God's word will prevent us from gaining our blessings and rewards that God has in store for us and will keep us from living a triumphant life here upon earth. Saved but defeated, comes from a lack of trust in God's word. Saved and victorious, means that we have accepted the enabling work of the Lord to live a victorious life that honors God. As Christians, we must take care not to allow doubt and unbelief to fill our hearts, but to live a victorious life, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

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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