

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

11.14.2021

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.

We are the Light of the World

John 8: 12 - 27

As Christians, the word of God teaches us that, expressing the true gospel of Salvation to the world will cause hostility between the life of the believer and that of the world. Mankind will also strive for the determination to discredit our testimony by whatever means necessary. Just as it was with Christ in his final time of ministry, the intensity of this worldly determination was increasing daily and so it is in the life of the believer today as we live in the last days of this church age, satan is constantly trying to discredit the truth of salvation by whatever means possible using lies of deception, which come forth in the manner of many false prophets. Christ bore witness of his own sinless life by claiming his deity in God the Father. Christ will bear witness through our life today by giving us the gift of his salvation and the power of this gift of salvation, which comes through the Holy Spirit, and allows us to show his salvation unto the world.

John 8: 32,....and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free....

There are many who, truly believe in Christ as their savior, there are many who, have trusted in him as their redeemer, and there are many who, have placed their faith in him for salvation, but, not all choose to abide in that truth of his word, and for this reason they can become prey to false gospels, false religions, and false teachings, that will distort the truth of Gods word. We must abide in prayer, we must abide in the word of God, so that we may learn of Christ, and grow in his grace. Obedience to Gods word means, spiritual growth, spiritual growth means, spiritual maturity. The more that we mature spiritually in Christ, the more that we will develop in our spiritual freedom and away from sinfulness, which keeps us from worldly bondage, and allows us to live our life in spirit and in truth.

John 8: 12 – 14,....Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world....

Christ, who came to the earth, to allow his light to shine in darkness, to enlighten the darkened soul of man, to free mankind from this spiritual darkness, using the enlightened eternal love of God. His light is pure light, a redeeming light, which brings new life into all who is dead in trespasses and sins, who will accept this light freely.

John 1: 5,....and the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not....

In a world that continues in darkness, God has given humanity the ability to look to his goodness and grace through his Son. Christ, who left his glory above, clothed himself in human flesh, allowed himself to be born into a fallen race, so that the saving grace of his light, his truth, and his love could shine forth, to put a spark of hope into the soul of man. Therefore, man has been given free will to accept this glorious light of the gospel of grace and to be placed into the brightness of Gods eternal kingdom.

Acts 4: 12 – 14,....neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved....

Humanity lives under condemnation of God, due to sin and the choice to continue to live in sin, sadly, so do many believers. This is due to unbelief in the word of God, and disobedience to the word of God. If, as believers, we would be obedient to the word, we would not judge, nor would we be judged, but we would live and rejoice in the Lord. We must live our lives unto the Lord, and not unto the gratification of man. In this, mankind finds it easy to pass judgement according to his own emotional opinions and interpretations of the scriptures. No one can know the mind of another except for Christ, no one can assess the motives of another except for Christ. There are areas in which the Christian has been given the right and the authority to make corrections, but this authority is to be used against the destructive forces of evil, so that all may hold onto that which is good and pleasing in the sight of God. Unrighteous judgement brings about the destruction of our spiritual peace and joy. God gives wisdom and discernment through the indwelling Holy Spirit, to judge between that which is good and that which is evil, according to the given word of God. We must study the word with an understanding heart so that with Godly discernment we may see the correct spiritual context and apply it to our lives in spirit and in truth.

John 8: 14,....Jesus answered and said unto them, Even if I bear witness of myself, my witness is true, for I know where I come from and where I am going....

Christ who is the perfect pattern of human life, the greatest example to humanity of how that God would have us to live our lives in spirit and in truth and submitted fully unto the desired will of God. Man was created to represent God upon this earth and man was appointed to rule over all that God had created upon this earth and to come under his sovereign authority. Because of sin, deception, and transgression, man fell from God's grace, and therefore became incapable of living within the desires of Gods proposed plan. For this reason, when God sent his only begotten Son, the arrogance of man refused to acknowledge the truth of a savior who was sent in the image of an invisible God, the exact representative of Gods very being. He came to show man how to live, and to give his life as a ransom for all who would believe. Man would not listen, and questioned every truth that God had to share. Those who acknowledge the Son also acknowledge the Father. Sadly, foolish pride can cause mankind to miss out on the redeemer of the world, and therefore never come to know the Father. Only those who put their trust in Christ, for the salvation of their soul, by faith, will not perish, but have everlasting life.

Colossians 1: 12 – 20,....who is the image of the invisible God, the first born of every creature....

Many will live for the moment and neglect the matters of the heart that prepares us for eternity. Death eventually will come and steal away any chance of eternal security in Christ, and then it will be too late. The word of God teaches us too, make our lives count for Christ, to become eternally secure in his salvation, because once we leave this earth, there will be no more chances to secure our eternal life with God. Christ, from the beginning of time, has not hidden the meaning of who he truly is. Christ, who has equal power to God, equal judgement with God, equal authority as God, has been sent by God, and approved by God. He is the one and only way to come to know and to accept the spiritual truth of salvation. Those who reject him, will never come to know God, and will die in their sins and will be condemned to an eternity in hell. Due to worldly fear mankind's pride will not permit him to confess Christ as his Lord and Savior, so humanity constantly demands a sign to validate that Christ is truly the saving grace of the world. They ask in vain, not truly desiring to acknowledge the existence of Christ, but to discredit and to stop the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We continue to live in a world with numerous signs of the coming of Christ and sadly these signs are being ignored. This is due to spiritual unfaithfulness, that comes from a generation that only seeks after religious experiences and emotional and miraculous entertainment, instead of seeking after the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. There will be no more signs. The cross, the death, his burial and the resurrection, is the most powerful sign that could have ever been offered has already been given. If this sign cannot convince humanity, then none other ever will.

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.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3177 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>

