

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

1.9.2022

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.

Christ Dwelling Place

John 1: 29 – 42

Today we will look at through the example of Jesus Christ the beginning of the grace dispensation period, which comes through the saving grace of God, along with, which when salvation takes place, we are filled with the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, this is the beginning of the church, which is the body of Christ. This means, now that God has come in the flesh, salvation and the Holy Spirit will come to humanity through the sacrifice of Christ and the cross. This Holy Spirit that came upon Christ, will remain upon Christ, just as when it comes upon us through the salvation of Christ, it will remain upon us because Christ is the one who gives unto us the indwelling the Holy Spirit. John baptized with water looking forward to Christ saving grace. This was an outward showing of anticipation looking forward to an inward work of God. Christ, who was baptized by John, and received the Holy Spirit from God the Father, was the first recipient of Gods saving grace, and therefore is the one that has the power to give Gods saving grace to all. This is because Christ baptizes with the Holy Spirit.

John 15: 26 – 27,....when the helper comes, who I shall send to you from the Father....he will testify of me, and you also will be witnesses....

Christ will be the means, by which everyone who believes will receive the Holy Spirit. Whatever works the Holy Spirit does within us, as believers, he does because of Christ. When baptized in, or immersed in the Holy Spirit, it completely covers us, meaning, it becomes profoundly influential in our lives. The Holy Spirit within us, is our witness to Christ, and our glorification to God. As we look at the baptism of Christ, and the contrast between baptism by water, and spiritual baptism, made possible by God, through Christ, we also see the introduction of the church, which is also only made possible by God, through Christ, which is salvation by and through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

John 1: 29 - 39,....behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world....I knew him not, but that he should be made manifest....I saw the spirit descending, and remaining on him....I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God....behold the Lamb of God....what seek ye....they said unto him, rabbi, which is to say, being interpreted, master, where dwellest thou....he saith....come and see....

As believers, we know that the church was born on the day of Pentecost with the giving and receiving of the Holy Spirit, but the introduction started with, and the church continues to grow out of the same question, what seek ye. Although Christ knew why the disciples of John were following him, he wanted to hear them say it. By answering this question, we proclaim our motive for, and take action which leads to salvation. This is the faith that God wants to see in us, which is our choice to become what he has in store for us in our life. Even though, at the time of our seeking God, we did not know exactly what it was that we were seeking, we did realize, who it was that we were seeking. When the disciples ask, where dwellest thou, they were expressing to Christ that they had already started to have faith in their loyalty to him, and that they did not want to lose sight of the glory of God. We do not always know what it is that we are looking for, but we do know, that the answer is found in Christ and the cross.

John 1: 39,....he saith unto them, come and see....

Christ is willing to invite anyone and everyone to know him, if they truly desire to do so. When he says come and see, he wants us to truly count the cost of what he is proposing, so that we may realize, and consider the difference between our lifestyle and the lifestyle of Christ, to follow Christ means, to find glory in the Father, instead of finding glory in the material things of the world. We must be willing to forsake all, in order to see where Christ dwells.

Luke 9: 23,....he said to all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me....

All believers we are God's children. We are saved according to our faith in Christ Jesus and the cross, but a true disciple takes up his cross daily and follows Christ. This means, studying the word, hearing the word, listening to the word, doing the word, and applying the word. We are to identify with all aspects of Christ.

James 1:22,....be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves....

We are to surrender our lives to Christ and to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit. To give ourselves as a living sacrifice.

Romans 12: 1,....present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service....

As we learn to present our bodies a living sacrifice, we will learn, where Christ dwells, and why he wants us to come and see, and to comprehend where it is that he dwells. Christ through salvation, dwells within each one of us.

Galatians 2: 20,....I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me....

Our life in Christ is a life of surrender, suffering, sacrifice and service to hm. Our death in Christ means, that this old sin nature, died in Christ, on the cross. By faith, I am part of a new creation in Christ, death no longer has power over me. So, where does Christ dwell, he dwells within this mortal body, as the Holy Spirit, of the resurrected Christ. Due to the fact that, the old nature will remain with us, throughout our life upon this earth, this brings us to the realization, that there are times that we must be reminded, where Christ dwells. The more we die to self, the more we live in Christ. Through the wisdom, knowledge and understanding of God's word, we are assured of Christ dwelling place, and that is within us, and our dwelling place is within the body of Christ.

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://hollowolfarm.com/>

