

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

1.23.2022

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.

Loving God Unconditionally

John 11: 5 – 11

One day we will pass from this life as we know it, but this will not be the end, it will be the beginning of our eternity. As Christians, we understand that everything, is all about the glory of God. This is all done to bring us into the love of God so that we may see and feel the love that God and his Son have prepared for all of humanity. Often time, what God does for us, we do not feel like it is love. Now no one wants to think of his love in this manner, nor do they want to think that the love of God could happen this way in our life, but it is sometimes necessary for the Holy Spirit to work in this manner to change our hearts and our minds, so that we may see what God's love is truly all about. This love means that God will give unto us all that we need, but it may not always be blessings of worldly value, or physical healings in the body, or even that which we feel at the time is the most important happening in our lives. It simply means giving unto us a full and endless experience of the glory of God. Love is doing whatever we must do, to help others to see and to cherish God's glory as their greatest joy, and the willingness to help others find complete satisfaction in the glory of his salvation. So, whether in life, or in death, we must trust God, we must acknowledge God and his saving grace, and above all, we must love him unconditionally.

John 11: 5 - 11,....when Jesus heard therefore that he was sick....saith he to his disciples, let us go into Judea again....are there not twelve hours in the day, if any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of the world....but if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him....our friend Lazarus sleepeth, but I go, that I may awake him out of his sleep....

All that Christ accomplished during his time of ministry upon this earth, was not only for an example to humanity, but also to teach humanity, and to show that, all his works will point to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and to the glory of God. The sickness of sin does not need to be unto death. God's desire is that all might have salvation and eternal life. Following Gods plan can seem dangerous for us at times from an earthly perspective. When Gods plan differs from the comfortable direction we are going in our life, remember that we can trust that his guidance will bring about positive results which will bring glory unto God.

2 Peter 3: 9,....but is longsuffering to us – ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance....

As mankind lives his life upon this earth, it is not God that condemns him to eternal hell, but it is by his own choice that he withdraws himself from God and rejects the love, the grace, and the mercy of Christ, this will cause man to condemn himself. Christ saving grace shows us how to live our lives. His life on this earth, was an example to us, to show us how to overcome the temptation, and the worldliness, that will come up against us. In overcoming, he taught us the way to salvation, and by his death on the cross, he secured our eternal life. Through obedience to his word, we acknowledge, and acquire his saving grace. We are taught, that in faith believing we are saved, and by our faithful work, we show this salvation to others. Christ showed us by example, how to live our lives, and he continues to teach us by his word, how to continue to mature in the wisdom and knowledge of God. We must do our part to choose, while we yet live upon this earth, because in death, the result of the choice that we have made will determine whether we remain separated from God or live eternally unto the glory of God.

Joel 3: 14,....multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision, for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision....

Even though this passage of scripture speaks of the impending judgement that God is going to hand out at the end of the tribulation period, we can use this to understand, in our life, that God is going to deal with wickedness, swiftly, and justly, and we know that his promises to make all things right, extends to the choices, that we have made. All men are saved in the same manner, by grace, through faith. The choice between life and death is extended to all humanity, due to that we are all born dead in trespasses and sins.

Romans 3: 23,....for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God....

Because of Christ and the cross, and the punishment in which Christ took on our behalf, the choice between life and death continues to be extended to all people. Our choice will either be a curse for us, or a blessing of God. Those who reject the free gift of salvation, choose death, which is an everlasting separation from God, eternally in hell. Those who choose Christ, choose salvation, and the unimaginable blessing of life eternal.

John 11: 9 – 10,....Jesus answered. Are there not twelve hours in a day, if any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of the world. But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him....

We now begin to see how important it is to walk according to the will of God. When there is no light, nothing can be seen and the direction that we need to go cannot be established. Only when there is light is it possible for us to truly see our surroundings. Only when we begin to see the true light of Gods word will it be possible to identify the correct path that we must take in order to avoid stumbling in our life. When we are centered in God's word, we are centered in his will result in a glorious, victorious, outcome, because we are walking in the light of his salvation.

1 John 1: 5,....This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all....

Only where there is light, is it possible for one to truly see his surroundings and to identify the correct pathway, so to avoid stumbling. When we are centered in the light of Gods word, centered in the light of his will, nothing or no one, can harm us.

As believers, we are surrounded by those who love darkness rather than the light. We understand that we all can be affected by the darkness, that is why, it is so important to continually walk in the light of his word. When we are focused on the word of God, then we are walking in his will. On the other hand, if we ignore the word of God, then we cannot be in the will of God.

1 John 1: 7,....but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin....

Even as Christians, who have been called out of darkness into his marvelous light, often time, we still find ourselves enduring worldly hardships, by falling prey to the darkness of the world that surrounds us. Does God do things that we do not understand. Things that we cannot figure out, things beyond our thinking, things that baffle us, and yes discourage us at times. Things that will reveal unto us just how little we truly understand, concerning Gods will in our life.

God has an appointed time for each of us. When we are walking in Gods appointed time, we have nothing to fear. There are opportunities in every situation in our life. We must wait, we must have faith, we must trust in God, knowing that he is always working things out. Even if we do not understand, we must never give up on Christ. We must have obedience in his word, we must trust in his word, we must never question God's ways, or lose faith in his word. We must always love God unconditionally.

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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