

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

1.30.2022

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.

Jesus Arrest

## John 18: 1 – 13

God himself stands between those who follow him and those who want to do harm to his followers. To ensure that we may be protected from sin and death, Christ paid a horrific price for us on the cross. For this, we must make sure that our faith is not just eternal only, but rather a matter of the heart. Humanity opposes Christ because of worldly pride. They, often time, seem to follow Jesus, but harbor great sinfulness, that leads to a downfall. This is because much of humanity misunderstands God's purpose for the cross. Christ's claim over the cross, and death, shows his obedience to God's eternal plan. Just as Christ was in control over the events surrounding his own death, so also is he Lord over every circumstance that we face in life. Even when as believers we fail, through repentance he restores us, and uses us, in conjunction with the father's eternal plan. Because Christ is Lord overall, we can trust him when we go through trials and tribulations in our life. At all times, we can feel secure knowing that God is always in control.

**Psalm 139: 23 – 24,....**search me, O God, and know my heart, try me, and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting....

Even though we despise the ways of the wicked, we realize that we are not perfect. Sin is always lurking in our mind because of temptation. For this reason, we ask the Lord to search our hearts, and to know our thoughts. God knows every aspect of our lives and is interested in the smallest details of our existence. This is where we learn that God is omnipotent, which is all powerful, omniscience, which is all knowing, and omnipresent, which means that his presence is everywhere. His righteousness, which is given unto us through salvation, is sufficient to uphold us, support us, protect us, defend us, comfort us, equip us, heal us, and help us in every aspect of our life. We must pray for God to prove our love and our loyalty. This will bring us to a deeper knowledge and understanding of the glorious character of an awesome God, who is the only source of salvation for our soul and life eternal.

**John 18: 1 – 3,....**when Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples....where was a garden....which he entered....and his disciples....Judas also....knew the place....Judas then....received a band of men and officers....cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons....

Christ had just finished teaching his disciples, and praying a prayer of intercession to the Father, and was now headed to the garden of Gethsemane where he would be betrayed and arrested. The betrayal of Christ is very important for us to study, because often time, even as believers, we betray Christ. Worldly teachings will try and tempt us into believing that it is okay to sin if we pray for forgiveness afterward or do some good deed to offset the sinfulness. When we sin, we must ask for forgiveness of that sin, but we must not sin just because we know that we can ask for forgiveness. There are consequences to sinfulness. We must realize that this mindset is foolishness. Even with that, the idea of living in this mindset can crepe back in, before we are aware, and we find ourselves attempting this way of life once again. We must beware that we do not use the righteousness of Christ just for the appearance of self-gain. We have been given a great responsibility, and that is to care for the growth of the body of Christ. When we begin to use worldly motivations for growth in the body of Christ for personal gain, we are betraying the one who has entrusted us with the responsibility of the salvation of others. The answer is simple, love Christ. Judas did not love Christ, he only loved what he could gain through Christ. Loving Christ is not because of what we want him to do for us, but simply because of who he is.

**Psalms 41: 9,....**yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me....

Christ has befriended us because he loves us. Even if our heart becomes wretched, it does not diminish Christ love for us. Christ wants a relationship with us, that is why he purposefully puts us in a position of trust. Christ always knows what he is doing, and who he is choosing. No matter what happens, Christ work is always to prepare us, and to give unto us the knowledge of the gospel as seed to sow among all that he brings into our life.

**John 18: 4 – 9,....**Jesus therefore....went forth and said....whom seek ye....they answered him, Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus saith unto them, I am he....as soon....as he....said....I am he....they....fell to the ground....ask he them again, whom seek ye....they said Jesus of Nazareth....Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he....let these go their way....he spake, of them which thou gavest me have I lost none....

Often time, we mistakenly think that because we are a Christian that this will keep us from adversity, or even deliver us from adversity. Instead of being delivered from adversity, God delivers us while we are in adversity. We would prefer to avoid all of life's problems, but life does not work in that manner. Adversity is often beyond our control, and therefore brings about many worldly physical and emotional challenges in our life. God uses adversity to strengthen our faith, because he knows that something good will come of it. We cannot choose to avoid adversity, but we can choose how that we are going to respond to it. We must learn to trust in God and seek his purposes. Christ, through his betrayal and arrest, shows us how to exhibit total control while in adversity, and through these events, we see more clearly, the glory of God, because it is God that is in control, it is his hour. Christ went knowingly, he was not deceived, he was not fooled, he was not surprised, but he was in the boldness and strength of the Father.

**2 Corinthians 12: 7 – 10,....**my grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness....therefore will I glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me....I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ sake, for when I am weak, then I am strong....

The Lord knows that it is human nature to become prideful even when doing a great work for the Lord. For this reason, God will cause us to be tried and tested, even to the point of experiencing suffering and hardships. For this reason, God gives us comfort through his word, and with this we can rejoice in our suffering. This in turn is a great testimony to the grace of God, and the power of the risen Christ.

**John 18: 10 – 13,....**Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest servant, and cut off his ear....then said Jesus, put up thy sword....the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it....then the band....took Jesus, and bound him....and led him away....

Spiritual battles cannot be won with material worldly weapons. These battles can only be won through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

**Hebrews 9: 22,....**and without shedding of blood is no remission....

Christ came to fulfill Gods will. To drink the cup of suffering and death which was given unto him by the Father. Christ lived his life here on earth as an obedient servant, totally dependent upon the Father. We as believers must be in willing obedience to seek to do the same will, knowing that Jesus not only died to save us, but he was also resurrected, so as to live his life through us.

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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