

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

3.20.2022

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, Our only Foundation

1 Corinthians 3: 10 – 23

What does mankind put their faith in. Gods calling upon humanity is to draw him to salvation. God selected all of mankind to be saved before time began. Therefore, man's election to salvation is already sure from God's point of view, but each must choose to accept their calling. God wants us to have assurance of our salvation, but it is up to us to pursue his Godly virtues and to allow our faith to bring us to believe in his Son and his saving grace. Faith is a gift from God, whereas doubt is a natural human emotion. To have a true relationship with Christ, we must have faith and put our complete trust in him. In our life as a believer, what do we put our faith in. Becoming a Christian is more than just accepting the saving grace of Jesus Christ and our life now becomes one of making choices of change and committing to serve God with our whole heart. Through obedience to God's word, we began to build a relationship with him, and by prayer we start to listen to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The closer we become to God, the greater our faith becomes in him.

2 Peter 1: 10 – 11,....brethern, give diligence to make your calling and election sure, for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall....for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ....

Living outside the realm of our Christlike qualities will cause us to become unproductive and experience spiritual blindness. Living within the realm of these qualities gives unto us confidence in our relationship with Christ. As believers, we must be diligent to pursue spiritually mature qualities instead of avoiding our commitment to God, but still claiming to have Christlike qualities. We are convicted by the indwelling Holy Spirit to give obedience to the truth of God's word concerning our salvation. This we do by walking in spirit and in truth. The more that we know about the word of God, the more we will trust in his word, and the more secure we will become in our eternal life in Christ.

1 Corinthians 3: 10 – 11,....according to the grace of God....I have laid the foundation....let every man take heed how he buildeth there upon....for other foundation can no man lay....which is Jesus Christ....

Everything belongs to God; therefore, we should not focus our efforts on materialistic, worldly achievements. As Christians, we are commanded to introduce the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ to the world, but we are warned, to be careful, that we do not haphazardly throw together our teachings, but that we build upon the wisdom, and knowledge of God's word being led by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. As believers, we know that the foundation of the church is Christ himself. Everything begins and ends with Christ. Our spiritual joy, happiness, and confidence should be in knowing that our lives are built on the foundation of Christ. This foundation was put in place by God the Father, when he gave his only begotten Son, so that he might pay our sin debt on the cross, and then secure our eternal life through his resurrection. This foundation can only be laid one time, and all our work is to be performed on the finished work of Christ.

Isaiah 28: 16,....therefore thus saith the Lord God, behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation, he that believeth shall not make haste....

The foundation of the world, which humanity builds their lives upon, is weak and narrow and made up of lies and deception. God has a solid foundation for our life. Only on a secure, stable foundation can anything lasting be built. We are unable to provide the right kind of foundation for our own lives, so we are encouraged, by the word of God to behold his foundation, appreciate it, and build our lives upon it.

1 Corinthians 3: 12 – 17,....every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it....and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is....if any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss, but he himself shall be saved....know ye not that ye are the temple of God....if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple are ye....

Christians are warned to teach and to preach with the truth of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. The quality of our spiritual teaching and preaching, due to the struggle of worldly deception, is hard to acquire, and even harder to build with, but as we persevere it is far more durable. Now, teaching that which is distorted is misleading and has no long-term benefit. Quality teaching on the other hand will stand blameless, and will have eternal value, and produce eternal rewards. Those who take time to serve God with all their hearts, regardless of the trials and persecutions that come because of their service, these are built on the true foundation, and therefore have stored up for themselves eternal blessings. Immature believers, who serve themselves, even though they have believed and are saved, but show little devotion to Christ in their daily lives, these will be saved, but because of their lack of faith they will have little to no reward for their services. So, we see that it is possible to be a Christian, and for various worldly reasons, and deceptions, have a partially distorted view of the truth of the word of God, which brings us to misleading the body of Christ with teachings that are not fully biblical.

2 John 1: 7 – 8,....look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward....

As believers, when we encounter those who deny Christ, it is not for us to get involved with their life, or their false arguments, but it is for us to stay focused on our spiritual life in Christ. Listening to false teachings cannot cause the believer to lose their salvation, but it can cause us to lose spiritual rewards if we follow worldly deception. A deceived believer does not faithfully serve the Lord. Salvation is not just gaining eternal life, but it also means having the ability to live a righteous and godly life here upon this earth.

1 Corinthians 3: 18 – 23,....let no man deceive himself....for the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God....therefore let no man glory in men....ye are Christs, and Christ is Gods....

When people think more highly of their own opinion than they do of God's word, then they are deceived. No one can fool God, for his work remains. Everyone in the body of Christ should be teaching and preaching the same truth, which is built upon the saving grace of Jesus Christ. There is only one gospel, but many proclaim it, and give their own interpretation of it. The church should never take sides or divide over what their favorite teacher or preacher proclaims to be the truth. Our salvation is not dependent on those who proclaim the gospel to us, it is dependent upon the power of the cross. No one will ever get, or take credit for the salvation of others, except Christ. Therefore, we should never boast in men because our salvation is not dependent upon man.

Ephesians 2: 19 – 22,....fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God....are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone....

We live in a world where immature Christians are absorbing false doctrines and seeking after deceptive teachings. We can only realize through his word that God has given unto us all that we need for life and godliness. Therefore, it is his word which should be our foundation and on which our faith, our spiritual maturity, and our spiritual life in Christ should stand. Let us remember and be a reminder to others that the word which was given unto us by God the Father must remain our foundation.

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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