Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

4.10.2022

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.

Thoughts on the Lords Supper

1 Corinthians 11: 20 – 34

As Christians, how often are we honest with ourselves concerning the purpose and will of God in our lives. We must learn to judge ourselves in the sincerity of our salvation. As we judge ourselves, we must search the word of God for those things that will comfort, teach, and instruct us in the love of God, and give unto us a greater degree of knowledge in Christ Jesus. With this knowledge comes the understanding that there will be things in our life that will require correction due to disobedience. God disciplines his children so he can bring about the kind of behavior in our life that will please him. For this reason, we must not complain about God's discipline, but learn from it. Learning allows us to examine our ways, repent, and seek God's mercy and forgiveness, looking unto Christ, and continuing in the truth of his saving faith. As we read and study God's word, the Holy Spirit, who knows all and sees all that is in our heart, reveals unto us God's holy will, which directs us to live our lives as forgiven sinners, always resisting the devil, and saying no to sinful desires, walking always in the newness of our life in Christ.

Haggai 1: 5 – 7,....this saith the Lord....consider your ways....this saith the Lord....consider your ways....

Too often God's people are quick to make excuses as to why that they cannot participate in spiritual works. Rather than coming up with excuses for not doing Gods will, we should be determined to simply do all that we are capable of doing in our service to God. Condemnation from God will come upon us when we misplace our spiritual priorities. When our priorities are not in order, then we are not seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Having the right priorities requires work, this means that we must do the work that God has called unto us to do. Remember, that we cannot claim to be putting the Lord first in our lives if we are not living in obedience to his word.

1 Corinthians 11: 20 – 22,....when ye come together....this is not to eat the Lords supper....in eating every one taketh before other his own....one is hungry....another is drunken....have ye not a house to eat and drink in....what shall I say to you....I promise you not....

Nothing of what the people in the church at Corinth were doing concerning the Lord's supper would come close to being approved by Christ. When gathering together, it should be for a greater purpose then our own self-righteous needs. Sometimes we need to be reminded what our obedience and service to the Lord is really all about. Often time, what is happening in the church today, in the body of Christ, is so contrary to the word of God, that it does not make any sense to refer to it as Gods will. This is due to the fact that believers misunderstand the will of God. Instead of the whole body fitly joined together, each person has their own separate form of worship, which leaves others merely watching and confused as to that which is taking place. All believers should be unified in Christ. Those in the body of Christ must learn how to unite without disrespecting and minimizing others in the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4: 14 – 16,....we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine....of men....they be in wait to deceive....grow up unto him....even Christ....who the whole body fitly joined together....maketh increase of the body....unto the edifying of itself in love....

As Christians, as we spiritually mature, we should not be deceived by false doctrines and teachings. Even though these false teachings change regularly, this is still no excuse to be easily fooled into thinking that these false teachings are accurate. Human persuasion and deceitful schemes are sinful strategies of deception that may appear to be good, but actually promote false deceptions. This is why that we are commanded to put on the whole armour of God. As being a part of the whole body of Christ, each individual must work together according to God's purpose, so that the body may function properly. When one person is weak, the rest of the body suffers. When members of the body work together in unity, then the body grows spiritually. A spiritually healthy church, rather than a rapid growing church in vibrant worldly emotion, is what defines the spiritual success within a congregation.

1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 26,....for I have received of the Lord that which I also delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, take, eat, this Is my body, which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me....after the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood, this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me....for as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lords death till he comes....

When we partake of communion, our minds must be focused on Christ, and the sacrifice that he has made for us. Just as Christ did give thanks unto God at the very first supper, so must we give thanks unto God for giving his only begotten Son for a sacrifice for our sins. Christ the living bread of life that sustains us throughout our lives also gives unto us eternal life.

John 6: 32 - 35,....for the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world....Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life, he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst....

The word teaches us not to work for that which perishes, but for that which endures to eternal life, which only Christ can give. Christ did not say he had the bread of life but that he was the bread of life. Not only does Christ give unto us each day our daily bread, but he also supplies us with his life-giving spirit, which is life everlasting. By faith, with thanksgiving, may we daily partake of that bread of life for in him is eternal life. The bread that was broken was symbolic of the fact that Christ own body would be devastated just hours later. He gave his body for us, and we are to eat the bread in remembrance of him. The cup represents the blood of Christ and introduces the new covenant between God and his people, one which we are still under today. Jesus made a new covenant and sealed it with his blood. We now proclaim the death of Christ by eating the bread and drinking the cup.

John 6: 53 – 56,....verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh....and drink the blood, ye have no life in you....he that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him....

Rituals and good works are not sufficient for a person to gain eternal life, only Christ himself can offer eternal life to anyone who will believe upon him. Those who reject his message will not receive eternal life.

1 Corinthians 11: 27 – 34,....whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup....unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord....let a man examine himself....he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself....for this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep....if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged....when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord....when ye come together to eat, tarry for one another....come not together unto condemnation....and the rest will I set in order when I come....

To partake in communion unworthily is to treat it as ordinary food and drink without giving any thought to what it means. The word says, one might examine himself to make sure he is remembering and honoring the Lord for what he has done. It is also an opportunity to seek out any unconfessed sins, and to repent. Communion is a personal responsibility for us to be honest in our judgement of ourselves. The idea is to bring us into his repentance and obedience. God gives unto us the ability to come together in love, humility, and harmony. We should do everything that we can to be prepared for serving others. Our preparedness will make us better servants in the body of Christ. The Lord's supper is all about Christ, and not about us. The Lord's supper is a visible witness to the world that shows the sacrificial death of Christ, the resurrection, and his glorious return for his church.

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.

7im Hughes

304.376.3177 – Text or talk. Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com https://hollowowlfarm.com/