

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

4.17.2022

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.

Witness to Christ's Resurrection

1 Corinthians 8: 15: 1 – 11

We are Christians because we believe that Christ died and rose again and now sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession to the Father on our behalf. Our faith is based upon the truth of God's word, and this truth is rooted and grounded in the cross of Christ. The word of God is the sure testimony of the gospel message of salvation, for his word is steadfast and sure. God's word stands fast forever because it is plain, simple, and uncomplicated. We must hold fast to this uncomplicated truth, because without believing, it is a meaningless faith and will accomplish nothing.

1 Corinthians 15: 1 – 2,....brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached....which....ye have received....wherein ye stand....by which....ye are saved....keep in memory....unless ye have believed in vain....

Often time, we must remind Christians, what exactly it was that they believed, in order to be saved. It was the message of Gods grace and the forgiveness of sin through faith in Christ and the cross. Even though at times believers need a reminder, they are still standing in their belief in the gospel, because their position in salvation remains due to their faith in Christ, by the grace of God, nothing else could be the reason for Gods approval of the believer in Christ. Therefore, we must proclaim the truth of the salvation on which we stand, for this truth is grounded in the unchanging word of God. Without the crucifixion and the resurrection there is no salvation in Christ Jesus. So, we must examine our salvation, so that we do not believe only partially in the gospel. We declare that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ, so that we may share this truth with others.

Romans 1: 16,....for I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth....

Why did Paul write this passage in Romans, it is because he knew that there were those who, because of temptation, were ashamed, concerning their salvation. This is because the truth of Christ seemed absurd to many people. Once called by God we are then set apart from the world to proclaim his gospel.

1 Corinthians 15: 3 – 7,....I delivered unto you....that which I also received....that Christ died for our sin according to the scripture....he was buried....he rose again....according to the scripture....and that he was seen....of all the apostles....

We are not saved by leading good lives or by moral improvement, but by believing upon Christ, because Christ died for our sin according to the scripture. Therefore, our eternal future stands firm or fails based upon our belief in the truth of the gospel. The word of God should be the first and foremost important thing in our life in Christ. This is how that we understand who Jesus truly is. We come to realize that if we only have hope in this world than we are in a pitiful state of mind. Our witness for Christ must be anchored in the truth of the gospel, and our faith in Christ is confirmed by this truth, but many still choose to doubt him.

Galatians 1: 12,....for I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ....

There will be those who claim that it is not enough to just receive Gods grace through faith, but that we must also follow after man's laws to be saved. The understanding that we have of the gospel must come from the risen, ascended, and glorified Christ. Therefore, we must stand firm on the word of truth, which God has given unto us through the leadership and guidance of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 6: 17 – 20,....God, willing....to shew....the....promise....of his counsel....confirmed it by an oath....that by two things....it was impossible for God to lie, we might....lay hold upon the hope set before us....which hope we have as an anchor....sure and stedfast....even Jesus....

First, we talk about the very nature of God. He is a sovereign God (supreme being), he is omnipotent (all powerful), omniscience (all knowing), omnipresence (his presence is eternally everywhere), therefore whatever he promises, it is absolutely certain. Next is the evidence of the truth of the promises of his word. God has fulfilled and will continue to fulfill his promises. As believers, who follow after the characteristics of God, we should increase in faith, grow in grace, and mature in the knowledge of Christ. This means breaking free from the religious rituals which enslave us spiritually and we must live our Christian life all to the glory of God. Gods word and the promises that it contains, are guaranteed to be true, and we are not to be tempted by those who seek to discredit this truth through a watered-down gospel, just for political correctness and worldly gain. We must rest upon all Gods precious promises which he has given unto us in his unchanging word.

1 Corinthians 15: 8 – 11,....for I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle....but by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace....was bestowed upon me....therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed....

Like Paul, we all have at times persecuted the body of Christ, therefore we can only be qualified to be an ambassador for God for the reason that he has appeared unto us and called us. It is only Gods grace that can bring us into the work that he has for us to do. We do not work for our salvation, but we work because of our salvation. We must not boast in what we do for Christ, but rather in what Christ does for us. It is by the grace of God that we can be a living example of the gospel of our salvation, and it is through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit that we are able to teach and preach the gospel with the ability that God has given unto us so that others might hear and believe. We cannot reform ourselves, but we must be transformed through Christ. This continual process comes through the permanently indwelling Holy Spirit that empowers us to work the works of God to his praise and to his glory. Therefore, we must be prepared to work timelessly for the Lord due to the willingness of Christ, who suffered, even to the point of death, for the remission of our sins.

Romans 12: 2,....and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of our mind, that we may prove what that is good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God....

How do we respond to the mercy of God? The appropriate reaction should be to offer the entirety of our lives in service to him. We must abandon worldly desires and stop living like everyone else, and change the way that we think, by having our minds renewed through the spirit of God, so that we might begin to understand Gods will for our lives. As believers, we have been called into a personal relationship with God where our lives are a reflection of Christ and our bodies become a living sacrifice to his will. As our thoughts become influenced by the mind of Christ, then the desire of our heart becomes that which will allow Gods perfect will to be translated into our perfect will. How important therefore to keep our focus on Christ and our desires on those things that are heavenly and have eternal rewards. May we turn from the things of this world and continue willingly, in submission to God, so that we may live in spirit and in truth, and walk in the light of our salvation in Christ Jesus.

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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