

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

5.15.2022

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.

Ambassadors for Christ

## 2 Corinthians 5: 11 – 21

As believers, we are secured in our eternal standing with God, due to the perfect righteousness of Christ being accredited to us. We cannot come to God of our own good works, because we cannot reconcile ourselves to Christ. It was Christ, through the crucifixion and resurrection that took the debt of our sin and gave unto us his righteousness. For this reason, he asks of us to proclaim the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ to the world, because it is only through this gospel that humanity can have the hope of eternal life.

**Colossians 1: 20 – 21,....**having made peace through the blood of his cross....to reconcile all things unto himself....whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven....and you, that were sometimes alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled....

Christ, by whom all things were made, concerning the original creation, which is in ruins due to sin, now is the one in whom the new creation is formed by means of the cross. Through this, God, will bring peace with everything in heaven, and on earth. All of Gods fullness dwells in Christ the Son and is made known unto us through faith. Christ became the sin substitute for the sin of all humanity; therefore, nothing is required of us, because it pleases God to reconcile mankind to himself. As we die to sin, we live not to ourselves, but unto God.

**2 Corinthians 5: 11 – 13,....**knowing therefore the terror ( fear ) of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest unto God....we commend not ourselves....but give you occasion to glory....that ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart....whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God....whether we be sober, it is for your cause....

What is the fear of the Lord? To fear the Lord means to come to him in reverence and respect, acknowledging him as the sovereign God of the universe who is omnipotent, omniscience, and omnipresent....

**Proverbs 1: 7,....**the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge....

**Proverbs 8: 13,....**the fear of the Lord is to hate evil....

**Proverbs 14: 27,....**the fear of the Lord is the fountain of life....

**Proverbs 19: 23,....**the fear of the Lord tendeth ( leads ) to life....

As Christians we need to be reminded that we have the permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit within us, who has gifted us and empowered us with all that we need for life and godliness, no matter how difficult our life in this world becomes. This is our reminder of who we are in Christ. Our true strength does not come by our own capabilities, but by relying on the power and love of Christ. Through his grace are we able, by faith, to produce sound judgement, through a disciplined mind. We all need Gods love in our life and we all need sound judgement and a disciplined mind. Therefore, we must look to Christ, and willingly submit to his instruction through the chastening work of the Holy Spirit, which will bring inner peace that surpasses all understanding, which is the power of God to all, whose mind is in the fear of the Lord.

**2 Timothy 1: 7,....**for God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind....

We need strength and power that can only come from God. We secure this in our life by prayerfully pursuing an intimate relationship with God, through Christ and his word. It is the indwelling Holy Spirit which gives unto us spiritual courage and power to use to carry out Christ mission of love, grace, mercy, and compassion on this earth, which leads unto salvation.

**2 Corinthians 5: 14 – 16,....**the love of Christ constraineth us....that if one died for all....and that he died....that they which should live should not....live unto themselves....wherefore....know we no man after the flesh....though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more....

As believers, we should no longer see people through our eyes of the flesh. Through spiritual eyes, we should see all humanity as souls in need of redemption, which is Gods saving grace. This is because once that we have believed and are saved, the power of sin no longer has dominion over us. Now, no one is excluded from the forgiveness which Christ gave as he paid our sin debt on the cross. Therefore, the punishment of sin has been paid forever by the blood of Christ. As being one of those who trusted in the only begotten Son, when he died, we died with him, his death became our death, his resurrected life became our life in Christ. This does not mean that we are sinless, but it does mean that sin and death have no power over us. This should compel us to no longer live for ourselves, but to live our life for Christ. We do this because Christ willingly became flesh and dwelt among us, the one who humbly and obediently carried out the work and the will of God, even to his death on the cross. Therefore, as believers, we are eternally thankful to God for our salvation, which comes through faith by God's grace. Our love for God should compel us to share the gospel, which is that Christ died for all. For this reason, we should no longer evaluate mankind on their outward and worldly appearances, which are so highly praised in humanity today. By, and through our new position in Christ we no longer recognize any person from an outward, human viewpoint. Our assessment of others must be based upon the crucified, resurrected, glorified Lord, the one who gave his life, so that all might live.

**Ephesians 2: 1 – 7,....**you hath he quickened....wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world....but God who is right in mercy....quickened us together with Christ....and hath raised us up together....he might show the exceeding riches of his grace....through Christ Jesus....

Our salvation is evidence of Gods amazing grace. We have been declared righteous, forgiven, heirs of God, joint heirs with Christ. Once separated from God, having no hope without God, through salvation we have been brought into the body of Christ with the promise of eternal life. Our saving grace in Christ will remain because of the never-ending mercy of God. Our lives now stand as a sure testimony of Gods great goodness toward humanity. This gospel will remain as an everlasting witness of the mercy and grace which came through the cross.

**2 Corinthians 5: 17 – 21,....**if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold all things are become new....all things are of God....to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them....now then we are ambassadors for Christ....be ye reconciled to God....for he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him....

Through believing in Christ, we have been reconciled with God which means that we now represent God and proclaim his gospel to all mankind unto salvation. By this are we able to let everyone know the need for the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and how easily that need might be met. By proclaiming that it was not for his own sake that Christ died on the cross, but that it was for our sake that he died, we now can testify to fact that God took the sinfulness of the world and put it upon his only begotten Son and then took the righteousness of the Son and gave it unto mankind. To receive life eternal, we must accept the righteousness of Christ. Without his righteousness we cannot enter into the presence of God, for it is the righteousness of Christ that restores our fellowship with the Father.

**John 3: 16 – 17,....**for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life....for God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved....

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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