

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

8.7.2022

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 Heals two Demoniacs

Matthew 8: 23 – 34

As believers, we have been delivered through the power of Gods word. Delivered from the grasp of the old nature, which, we were born into, as a result of the downfall of mankind, which took place in the beginning of creation. Salvation, or the deliverance from the penalty of sin has been provided by God, through faith believing in Christ. Contrary to what some may teach, it takes obedience to the word of God in order for any kind of deliverance to take place.

Once saved, there is no further need for deliverance, for at that point we are just asking God for something that he has already done for us. The reality is, that when we accepted Gods saving grace we were delivered from sin, and the power of sin. This means that we are no longer a slave to sin, we are free to obey God and his word.

Christ delivered many people from unclean spirits during the time that walked upon this earth and gave unto his disciples the power also to do the same. As we read and study the word of God, we learn that Christians are not instructed to cast out demons, and certainly not from other believers, this is because believers cannot be inhabited by demons, nor are believers instructed to cast demons out of non-believers. Christ and his disciples were the only ones who cast out demons, and in every instance the demon possessed people were non-believers.

Through the cross, the resurrection, and the giving of the Holy Spirit, Christ assumed the responsibility of defeating and removing unclean spirits. Through salvation, the indwelling Holy Spirit moves in, and with this comes the promise that the Holy Spirit will never cohabit or indwell with demons or unclean spirits. Therefore, as Christians, we are instructed to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Ephesians 2: 1 – 6,....you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins....and were by nature the children of wrath....but God....even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ....

Humanity is spiritually dead due to sin, which means that we have a nature that cannot be revived until we believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ. All humanity must choose to be saved from their dead spiritual state. Through faith believing, we are delivered from our state of spiritual deadness and are raised up and made alive in his Son, Christ. No one can claim self-deliverance, and no one can claim that they have delivered anyone else, because it is only by the power of God that Satan and his dominions can be defeated.

Matthew 8: 23 – 27,....when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him....then arose a great tempest....the ship was covered in waves....be he (Christ) was asleep....his disciples came....awoke him....saying, Lord, save us, we perish....he saith unto them, why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?....he arose....rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm....the men marveled, saying, what manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him....

Not all people who follow Christ live by his example. Because of worldly fear, many believers become overwhelmed when faced with the uncertainty of the world, and do not put their complete trust and faith in the Father. Even though, initially, we lack faith in Christ, as we come to him, he will reveal a level of authority to us that has gone unnoticed in our life.

Matthew 8: 26,....he saith unto them, why are you fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm....

Often time, Christ first response is not to immediately save us from worldly uncertainty but to work with our lack of faith and fearfulness so that we might grow in the assurance of his strength and abilities. God often uses what we see as impossible situations to demonstrate his supreme power and authority so that we might take the promises of his word as truth, and trust and depend entirely upon him in all circumstances. We are called by God, to abide in Christ, to rest in his love, to depend upon him, to cast our cares upon him, listening obediently to his voice, trusting in him with our whole heart, not leaning on our own understanding.

1 Peter 5: 7,....casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you....

Proverbs 3: 5,....trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding....

Matthew 8: 28 – 34,....when he was come....into the country....there met him two possessed with devils....they cried out....what have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? The devils besought him....if thou cast us out, suffer to go away into the herd of swine....he said unto them, go....they that kept them fled....and told everything....behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus....they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts....

Christ has authority over everything. Even Satan and his dominions recognize and are in subjection to the power of God.

James 2: 19,....thou believest that there is one God, thou doest well, the devils also believe, and tremble....

There are many that profess faith in Christ but still fear the final judgement of God. Sinful deception, brought into the church by false prophets, have distorted the truth of God's word with deception that proclaims that knowing about Christ is the same thing as trusting in Christ. Just knowing about Christ does not bring one to believing upon him and trusting in him as savior and Lord overall. If wisdom and knowledge does not transform into the belief of the heart, then that knowledge is ineffective for salvation.

Galatians 5: 1,....stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage....

The freedom that we have in Christ, we received by grace through faith in him. It is this liberty which came by Christs finished work on the cross that has released us from the yoke of bondage.

Christian liberty does not mean that we obey Gods perfect word with our own strength, because this will fail every time. True believers walk in the spirit and in the truth of the indwelling Holy Spirit, yielding only through him to the righteous requirements of Gods will.

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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