

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

9.25.2022

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.

Obedience and Respect

Exodus 19: 16 – 25

As Christians, how do we approach God. As believers, we must prepare ourselves every day, to come into the presence of a sovereign, holy, God. When we make ourselves available to meet with God, we make the choice to seek the Lord, and to remove ourselves from worldly distractions, it is then that we will find him. It is a daily choice to spend more of our time focused upon the Lord. As we fervently seek the Lord, then will we begin to realize his presence in everything that we do for him. Prayer and study in Gods word is very important for us to experience the presence of God. Even though believers can live in the presence of God, unfortunately, there is a significant obstacle that can keep us from experiencing his presence in our lives, and that is sin. Sin can damage our relationship with God. The separation that sin causes is why God sent his Son, to pay the price of that sin debt.

Romans 6: 23,....for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord....

The only way to experience a close relationship with God and to experience the fullness of his presence, is to, by faith believing, trust in the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

So, why are there times when Christians are unable to feel the presence of the Lord? It is that we do not seek to know him personally. Many believers only read the word of God to find out what it is that God can do for them, and with little to no effort on their own part.

We must ask ourselves, is God a reoccurring part of our life? If the answer is no, then it is because there are things in our life that is crowding God out of our hearts and our minds.

As believers, we must learn to surrender ourselves to the Lord, set our hearts on pleasing him, and invite him to be Lord and Savior over every area of our life.

1 Chronicles 16: 11,....seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually....

As Christians, we must ask God to reveal himself unto us daily, and then we must seek his will on a daily basis, in all circumstance, both good and bad. As our relationship with God grows spiritually, it is then that we will see the evidence that his presence is always with us.

Exodus 19: 16 – 19,....it came to pass....on the third day....there were thundering and lightnings, and a thick cloud....and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud, so that all the people....trembled....Moses brought forth the people....to meet with God....when the voice of the trumpet sounded....Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice....

What does it mean to us, to go forth and to meet with God. It means that we must prepare ourselves, by utilizing the word of God, and the power of prayer. If we claim to be a Christian, but we live in a continuous lifestyle of sin, then we are not prepared. By failing to prepare, we are preparing to fail. We must prepare to meet with God, so that we might believe upon his Son, and accept the saving grace that he so freely offers. Everyday in our Christian life, we must prepare to meet with God, so that we might grow in faith, and that we might spiritually mature, which will guide us in the obedience of his word, for the purpose of seeking his will in our life.

Luke 21: 36,.... watch ye therefore and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man....

Just as Moses brought the people out to meet God, so does the Holy Spirit, through the scripture, guide us into a place in our daily life to meet with God, and this comes through watching and praying.

Now, Christians believe that watching means watching the events of the world, so that we will know when Christ is going to return, but this is not the meaning of this scripture. Watching and praying means that we are on guard at all times concerning our own spiritual state of mind. The danger of not watching and praying will result in self-righteousness and self-indulgence, which will distract us in worldliness, so that we will find ourselves spiritually unprepared when it comes time to meet with God.

Exodus 19: 20 – 25,.... the Lord came down upon the mount....the Lord called Moses up to the mount....the Lord said....charge the people lest they break through....to gaze and many perish....let the priests also....sanctify themselves, lest the Lord bring forth upon them....Moses said unto the Lord, the people cannot come up....for thou chargedst us....set boundaries....and sanctify it....the Lord said....thou shalt come up....and Aaron with thee....but let not the priests and the people break through....lest he break forth upon them....so Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them....

Just as God did through Moses with the children of Israel, so he does with us through his word, and that is to warn us of the consequences of going beyond the boundaries that he has established for us in his word. God knows that the viewpoint of the church is one of not having a serious, respectful attitude when it comes to approaching and meeting with the truthfulness and obedience of his word. No one is above Gods commandments; therefore, we are not to be arrogant or overconfident when entering into the presence of the Lord. Good intentions will not grant unto us God given opportunity in spiritual strength, for this reason, God has set boundaries in place between himself and, mankind to aid in keeping man from the alluring temptation of using the power of God for personal wealth and gain.

Matthew 5: 13,.... ye are the salt of the earth, but if the salt hath lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is therefore good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men....

How should the church approach God? The church is the body of Christ and is called to be his representative during his absence from this world. This means that believers are to have a truthful presence in showing the difference between worldliness and godliness, to a lost and dying world. We are warned against losing those valuable opportunities, and our abilities to make a difference, through the carelessness of self-righteousness, which will cause us to live a life that is good for nothing.

1 Peter 2: 9,....ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light....

Gods' presence is not to be treated lightly or casually. It is not to be treated merely as a chance to see something extraordinary or spectacular. As Christians, we must not allow the world to shape us into something that is not Christ like. We must live our lives unto the Lord, so that we may not waste this life that we have in Christ, so that it may become a worthy witness to the goodness, and the mercy, and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowolfarm.com/>

