

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

11.6.2022

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 in Justice

Exodus 23: 1 – 9

As believers, no matter the circumstance, we must always be a testimony to all the world, concerning the characteristics of God. Only by becoming obedient to the word of God are we able to reflect Gods character for all of humanity to see.

How do we understand Gods truth, it comes by the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, who is the spirit of truth.

John 14: 16 – 17,....I will pray the Father and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever....even the spirit of truth....

Only those who have the indwelling Holy Spirit can understand the truth of Gods word. This does not mean that we will always understand the spiritual intent and meaning that God has instore for us when he speaks to us through his word, but it does mean that he will never leave us without the hope of his understanding.

John 16: 13,....when the spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth, for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak, and he will shew you things to come....

This passage of scripture has a two-fold meaning. First, he was talking about sending the Holy Spirit back to earth once he had ascended into heaven.

John 16: 7,....I told you the truth, it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the comforter will not come unto you, but if I depart, I will send him unto you....

Secondly, he was speaking of the Holy Spirit indwelling within us at the time of our salvation. In either instance, he will guide us into the truth. First into the truth of our salvation, and secondly into the truth of our life in Christ. It is by our obedience to the truthfulness of Gods word, that will, by example, strengthen us to become effective witnesses for God.

In the scripture lesson today, we will learn three aspects of truthfulness, which is: truthfulness in presenting ourselves unto others, truthfulness in helping others, and truthfulness in sharing our spiritual wellbeing with others.

Exodus 23: 1 – 3,....thou shalt not raise a false report, put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness....thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil, neither shalt thou speak in a cause....neither shalt thou countenance a poor man in his cause....

Only those who have developed spiritual maturity through Gods divine standards will be able to resist the worldly pressure to conform to unjust ways. Participating in, and further spreading false details will only result in an unrighteous witness. As Christians, we should not change our testimony, which God has given unto us, according to the truth of his word, in order to follow after the popular opinion of worldly wisdom. In order to be truthful in presenting ourselves unto others, we must not live our lives seeking the approval of others.

Colossians 2: 8,....beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ....

Instead of spending our time teaching, or outlining all of the downfalls, wrong doings, and false doctrines in a fallen world, as believers, we should live by faith, seeking the truth that is contained in the gospel of Jesus Christ. As Christians, our focus should be on the doctrine that we have received by faith believing in Christ, all the while continuing to mature in the faith, and, in our obedience in the word of God. So that we are not deceived, and so that we present ourselves truthful to all of those around us, we must come to secure understanding in the wisdom and knowledge of Gods word, so that we are not enticed by man's wisdom, and turn from the biblical truth. Make no mistake, everyone is in danger of falling prey to false teachings, and to being enticed, and led astray. For this reason, it is very important that we come to understand that all that we have, and all that we need, is in Christ Jesus. Our hope, our life, and our truth is found in Christ, and Christ alone.

Exodus 23: 4 – 5,....if thou meet thine enemies ox or ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again....if thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him....

God expects us to take corrective actions when it comes to circumstances concerning those who we may feel to be our adversary. The word of God tells us that these circumstances are not about our adversaries, but these circumstances are about doing the right thing. We must trust that God is taking care of our salvation, and our needs, and he is in the process of giving unto us the strength, to do the right thing. This does not mean that we condone, or give into any disbeliefs, it just simply means, that we must do for our adversaries, what God would expect us to do for all of humanity, and that would be sharing with all mankind, the truthfulness of Gods love.

Matthew 25: 34 – 40,....come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you....I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger, and ye took me in, naked, and ye clothed me, I was sick and ye visited me, I was in prison, and ye came unto me....verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye done it to the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me....

Caring for those who are in need shows evidence of our faith, faith that helps in changing lives. God wants our lives to be overflowing with his mercy, love, and compassion. Through God working within us, will we as Christians, be able to express our obedience, in our spiritual ability, to let our truthfulness in helping others shine forth.

Exodus 23: 6 – 9,....thou shalt not wrest the judgement of thy poor in his cause....keep thee far from a false matter....for I will not justify the wicked....thou shalt take no gift....thou shalt not oppress a stranger....seeing ye were strangers....

As believers, it is not for us to judge according to our spiritual wisdom and knowledge, it is for us to leave all judgement unto God, for it is only God that judges all things perfectly. As Christians, we are to stay away from corrupt practices that the word of God condemns. This means that we must not promote accusations, in order to portray a standard of being better than someone else. This self-righteous show of superiority is a sin of offensiveness to our heavenly Father.

James 2: 1 – 4,....my brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ....with respect of persons....ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing....and say to the poor, stand thou there or sit under my footstool....are ye not partial in yourselves...

Maturing Christians must not only speak the truth in love, but they must practice the truth of their faith in every aspect of their life. We are to live in the truth of our salvation in every situation and circumstance. The life that we live is to be a true reflection of the life of Christ. Like Christ, we are to live in humble obedience, and we are to walk in spirit and in truth. We are to become a servant to all, without favoritism, without prejudice, and without discrimination, so that in him we may show others the way to everlasting life.

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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