

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

12.4.2022

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.

The Promise of Messiahs Forerunner

Luke 1: 8 – 20

During our life on earth, as Christians, our responsibility is to prepare the way for the world to see the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, so that all of humanity might believe and proclaim Christ as Lord. As believers, who have chosen, by faith, to believe in Christ Jesus, we are now his perfect choice to show unbelievers how exciting becoming a part of the body of Christ can be. We have been equipped, by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit to represent Christ.

1 John 2: 27,....by the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you, but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him....

As believers living in our new life in Christ, we have the ability to discern truthfulness from worldly lies, because we have the power of God within us. As born-again children of God, we are eternally secure, and as having received the anointing of God, we have the assurance that by walking in his spirit we will be guided into all truth. The Holy Spirit teaches us everything that we need to know, so that we may abide in him, and rest in his love, and trust in his word, in every area of our lives. As long as we are obedient to Christ and to his word, we will strive to live each moment for him, preparing the way, all the while looking forward to his coming.

Luke 1: 8 – 14,....it came to pass....while he executed the priest office....according to the custom....his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord....multitudes....were praying....there appeared....an angel of the Lord....when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled and fear fell upon him....the angel said....fear not....for thy prayer is heard, and thy wife....shall bear thee a son....and then thou shalt have joy and gladness, and many shall rejoice at his birth....

As Christians, let us not come to the conclusion, that our prayers are rejected just because the answer is long delayed. We must remember, that when we kneel in prayer, we must not hastily conclude, that just because the answer is not instant, does not mean that our prayers are unnecessary or useless.

It is not for us to know the time or the way in which our requests are to be answered, and only God knows what is best for us, and that he may have already granted our request, even before he allows us to know it.

There will be times in our lives, when problems will arise and it will seem that all hope has reached a dead end, but we are known by a God in which there are no dead ends, a God who always works on our behalf, making a way, when no way seems possible. We often do not understand God's ways or his timing, but our faith allows us to know that God will be faithful unto us, unto the end. For this reason, our motivation should be to please God.

Isaiah 41: 10,....fear thou not, for I am with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness....

Christ, who is the promised messiah, is also a chosen servant of God. He came to open the eyes of the blind, to be a shining light to those in the darkness of sin, and to become the fulfillment of God's promised covenant with humanity. For this reason, we are to become forerunners for Christ, giving thanks to the God of our salvation. Christ is the one who encourages us not to become discouraged, because he is our God, and his truth is sufficient for our lives. Faith in the promises of God's word is what he desires of all humanity. The Lord is longsuffering and knows that there are many things in our lives that can cause us to doubt and become discouraged, therefore he is gracious, and he is our ever-present help in times of trouble, and his righteousness is always sufficient for all our needs. Therefore, we must hearken to his word and believe that the promise of his word is trustworthy and true.

Luke 1: 15 – 20,....he shall be great in the sight of the Lord....he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost....many....shall he turn to the Lord....he shall go before....to turn the hearts....and the disobedient to....wisdom....to make ready a people prepared for the Lord....whereby shall I know them....and the angel....said....am sent to speak to thee....behold, thou shalt....not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed....

The Holy Spirit has an influence on our life even before we are born, and that influence is our conviction to salvation. God's plan for all of humanity is to have an absolute commitment to him.

Ephesians 1: 4 – 5,....he has chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love....having predestined us....to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will....

Through salvation, our ministry in Christ Jesus will help us to prepare the world for the coming of Christ. We are united with Christ, by faith believing, because he has revealed unto us the mystery of his will and has given unto us the mind of Christ. We are members of the one new man in Christ. Our blessings from God are not an afterthought, but they are an integral part of God's perfect plan for us, from the start. God knew from the beginning the choices that each of us would make, but he still chose every one of us in himself, before the world was created, so that we would be holy and blameless before him. Mankind is free to choose and is given the choice to reject or to accept Christ's free gift of salvation. Sadly, many ignore God's election. We understand that we are called for a reason, and that reason is to be conformed into the likeness of Christ, for he wants all mankind to die to their own desires, and to live for him alone.

Luke 1: 17,....he shall go before....to turn the hearts....the disobedient to wisdom....to make ready a people prepared for the Lord....

It is our duty, as Christians, to help to prepare others to understand the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. To be effective as a forerunner of Christ, we must understand that we are simply just a voice, a simple messenger of God. We are to announce that a savior is coming to receive unto himself a glorious church.

Ephesians 5: 27,....that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish....

John came as the voice that was crying out in the wilderness to make our paths strait, and just as John was a forerunner, so, as Christians are we. Just as we are called to remove everything in our lives that hinders our walk with the Lord, and to confess, and to believe in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross, we are to tell others how to prepare to do the same. We cannot serve the Lord without having a prepared heart, and we cannot please God when we avoid the truth of Gods word. When things happen in our life, God will, give unto us a sign, sometimes the sign is both a sign that will lead us into the greatest blessings of God, and sometimes it is a chastisement for failure to believe.

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://hollowowlfarm.com/>

