

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

1.1.2023

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.

Life is Choices

Ephesians 5: 17

Life is a matter of choices, and every choice that we make, has an effect on the direction that we will go next in our life. Some choice that we make, we do so, without giving them any thought, other choices, we will feel like they are the most important choices that we have faced in our life so far. When making important choices, and trying to do so on our own, we tend to make our life more difficult than it already is, and the more that we think about it, the more difficult it becomes. Humanity, therefore knowing, just how miserable the process of making choices allows them to feel, they then turn to the world, and follow after the wisdom of man, thinking that mans wisdom is the solution. As believers, so that we do not follow in the footsteps of the world, we must allow after the Holy Spirit, who simply reminds us, to submit to the obedience of Gods word. Now, when we are overcome by the sorrows of the choices which we have made in life, we will be amazed, how much clearer life will become, when we completely commit to Gods unchanging will. We soon will learn that a comfortable choice is not necessarily a rational choice. In our life, there will always be times that we will struggle in making tough decisions, but it is in those moments in our life, that will define who we are, and who we will become, therefore, choices should never be made without first seeking the will of God.

Ephesians 5: 17,....wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is....

Starting into a new year, for a lot of people, means starting with a clean slate of choices and resolutions. The word of God teaches us that, as Christians, we should never be reckless or unwise in our choices, but we are commanded to walk in Godly wisdom, and to make the most of every opportunity given unto us by God. Those who study Gods word must become familiar with his perspectives, concerning the issues that are taking place in their lives. When we turn from the foolishness of the world, then will we focus more clearly on the understanding of Gods desires in our lives. Those who are wise will refrain from foolish living.

Ephesians 6: 6,....not with eyeservice, as men pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart....

In Paul's letter, to the church at Ephesus, he gives instruction to the believer, concerning the will of God.

One basic principle that he gives unto mankind is that: it cannot be Gods will, if it is not in accordance with Gods word.

Psalms 119: 65,....thou hast dwelt well with thy servant, O Lord, according unto thy word....

Every person born on this earth, begins their life in sin, being alienated from God. Cleaning up one's life must be accomplished according to Gods word. We always have a choice, even when we think that we do not have one. We can choose to glory in every situation, and nobody can take that away from us, without our consent.

1 Thessalonians 5: 18,....in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you....

Gods grace is sufficient to sustain us in every circumstance, which means that even in our Christian life, when we make choices that are not in conjunction with Gods will, we will not be separated from his love. As believers in Christ, we are to develop an effective attitude of gratefulness to God. We are to grow in grace, and in the understanding of the word of truth, and we are to spiritually mature in our faith, and in our spiritual walk with Christ. As Christians, our spiritual maturity is reflected in our desire to choose to do Gods will.

Another basic principle to help us in making choices, is that before we can know the will of God in our life, we must be willing to do the will of God in our life.

Psalm 40: 8,....I delight to do thy will, O my God, yea, thy law is written in my heart....

Our life is a testimony to others, which shows our willingness to do the will of God. We are ambassadors of Christ, and servants of God, and we are called to be a witness to a world that is in need.

Acts 17: 28,....for in him we live, and move, and have our being....for we are his offspring....

God has established all times and places in our life, so that we might exist for the purpose of making the choice to do his will. God's word shows unto us the true and living way, but like all mankind, we must choose whether or not we are going to trust in the Lord.

The last basic principle that I want to mention is, the Lord is the only one that can reveal the truth of his will, to those who might yield unto it.

We must be aware that no man can reveal Gods will unto us, because only God himself knows his will for us.

John 16: 13,....when he, 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 show you things to come....

Our job is to listen, if we are not listening, through the Holy Spirit, to what Gods will is for our life, then we are listening to man. For this reason, many make the choice to follow after mans ways, and are led astray. The one who is submissive to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit is the one that will make the choice to follow after and become obedient to the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and therefore, will gain godly wisdom, and discernment in every aspect of life.

Isaiah 30: 21,....and thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it....

God's grace and mercy toward humanity never changes. God wants his believers to listen as he directs us in all that we do, so that we may become all that he has created us to be. God has a plan, and he will reveal unto us his plan, if we are obedient. We must always be expectant of God speaking unto us, so that when we need to make choices in our lives, his wisdom and knowledge is always present through his word, to guide us into the choices that we must make.

Psalm 119: 89,....for ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven....

Psalm 119: 160,....thy word is true from the beginning, and every one of thy righteous judgements endureth forever....

In life, we must make choices. Each choice that we make has a bearing on who we are now, and who we will be eternally. Making the choice to believe upon Christ, and to serve him, will lead us to fulfill Gods purpose and plan for our life. The choices that we make, have an impact on our life, and on the lives of those around us.

Once we have made a choice, we will be held accountable, and face the consequences of that choice, whether good or bad, whether it be blessings or judgements. What matters in our life in Christ is: how do we allow the choices, that we make in our life, how do we allow them to affect our 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.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowowlfarm.com/>

