

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

1.22.2023

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.

Blessing of Liberty in Christ

Galatians 5: 1 – 17

The blessing of the Christians liberty is eternal life with God, which means freedom from the consequences of sin and death. Christian liberty also means that we are free from the power of sin over our lives, and from the pressures that came through the law and the sacrifices that had to be made accordingly.

Romans 3: 20,....therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified....for by the law is the knowledge of sin....

The law could only take mankind to the knowledge of sin, but it could not do anything about it. The law can only expose sin and make us aware of it.

Christian liberty means that we now have the freedom to participate in all the activities that are expressed unto us through the word of God, as we seek the will of God, to determine what is the right way, to exercise our liberty in each situation.

Our goal as Christians, should be to glorify God, and to help in the building of the church, by showing others the way to Christ.

Believers, who tend to forcefully promote their spiritual liberties, could fall into a loose lifestyle of undisciplined living, while believers, who limit their spiritual liberties, could fall into a lifestyle of being defined by what they are against. For this reason, we should consult God and his word, to determine whether or not our activities will edify and glorify God, or hinder our relationship with him.

Galatians 5: 1 – 6,....standfast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage....if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing....everyman that is circumcised....is a debtor to do the whole law....Christ is....of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law, ye are fallen from grace....for we through the spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith....in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth....nor uncircumcision, but faith which worketh by love....

Spiritual liberty is where Christ himself places us, through our faith in him. Christ work is of no value to those who are not looking to be justified by works and deeds, this is a fruitless attempt at gaining righteousness. True faith will demonstrate itself through the love of God, and with it, shall produce spiritual fruit in the life of the believer.

Isaiah 29: 13,....wherefore the Lord said, for as much as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men....

Words can be used to reveal the condition of our hearts, and they can also be used to conceal how we really feel. For those who are watching, these are those who make themselves look like very dedicated Christians, but in reality, their hearts are far from God. The church is slowly becoming a system of religious rules and regulations that is based upon human emotions and traditions, that just have the appearance of Godliness. These emotional traditions eventually encourage believers to follow after and observe these worldly ideals, even if it means disobedience to God and his word. Therefore, we must be careful to continually seek to grow in faith, and mature in Gods love, so that we do not find ourselves just going through the motions of our salvation.

Matthew 15: 7 - 8,....ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you saying....the people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me....

Just because it is traditional, does not mean that it is in obedience to the word of God. Christ himself said that humanity was making the meaning of his word of no eternal value. Being devoted to a religion or religious movement does not constitute within us the sincerity of the truth. Any body can say the right thing at the right time, but this does not mean that they are committed themselves to the obedience of Gods word. As believers, how thankful we should be for the written word of God. We must never think that the word of God can be improved upon by any addition from mans wisdom, as if God had left something out. As Christians, we demonstrate our service to God by glorifying him. The entirety of our spiritual life is dependent upon our abiding in Christ, through obedience to his word.

Galatians 5: 7 – 12,....ye did run well , who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?....this persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you....I have confidence....through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded....if I yet preach circumcision....then is the offense of the cross ceased....

False teachings within the church will cause believers to mix their faith with various, worldly practices.

As Christians, we have received the good news of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, we believe that Christ died in our place, for our sins, on the cross, and paid our sin debt. By faith, we were welcomed into the family of God, the body of Christ. We were indwelled by the Holy Spirit, and we begin following after Christ.

So, what is next? We either continue on our pathway of spiritual growth, or if we do not continue to grow in faith. If we do not continue to mature spiritually in our life in Christ, then through the deceptive persuasion of those who disobey and trust the truth of Gods word, those who gain worldly stature and material wealth by preaching that God expects us to do more for them, it is then that we stumble. Only through faith, in the truth of God's word, can we identify the teachings, that create an obstacle in our relationship with Christ.

Matthew 7: 20 – 23,....wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them....not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven....many shall say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name....and then I will profess unto them, I never knew you....

Study in the word of God will teach us how to recognize true followers of God, and also how to avoid those who give a false interpretation of the truth of God's word. We are warned, to watch out for those who pretend to follow Christ, but they live lives that indicate something different. Christ is not giving unto us a guideline to judge other people, he is giving us a guideline to recognize their misguided message and their guilty actions.

Galatians 5: 13 – 17,....brethern, ye have been called unto liberty, only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh....thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself....this I say then, walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh....these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would....

To live the spiritual life that God requires, means that we must be willing to submit completely to his will and authority. We can only walk in the spirit and truth when we are led by the Holy Spirit of truth and guided by his word of truth. Only as we commit, by grace, through faith in Christ Jesus, are we able to live as God has intended for us to live.

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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