Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

2.12.2023

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 that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Blessings of Gods Comfort

2 Corinthians 1: 3 – 11

How often do we look at difficulties in life, and as a result, our peace of mind is crushed into distress and confusion. When this happens, we, who have trusted in the Lord, in faith believing, as are saviour, we are to remember the many precious promises that he has made unto us, in our time of affliction, which helps us to know that his grace is sufficient to supply all our needs. We must never forget that we have the indwelling Holy Spirit, the comforter, living within us, who is our help when all the pressures of life try to overcome us. As a result of this, God not only strengthens and comforts us, but gives unto us the ability to offer that same wonderful comfort that we have received from God to others.

Isaiah 51: 12,....I, even I, am he that comforteth you....

Nobody understands us the way that God understands us. When worldly fears arise, when anxiety begins to build up in our life, we, as believers, have the assurance that we can pour out our heart to God, who is waiting with open arms, with his love, and peace of mind, to fill our very being with a rejuvenating spiritual joy. Worldly fear arises in our life, when we allow sinful desires to distract us in our relationship with God. Therefore, sin causes us to suffer, but God promises to restore us, despite our forsaking him, all we must do is repent.

Psalm 51: 12,....restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.

Only God can restore the lost joy of his salvation within us. It is far better to be obedient to God, and to his word, than to deliberately disobey, all the while still hoping to seek a renewal of the joy of that salvation. Cleansing from sin occurs, and spiritual joy returns, when we repent. Christ himself said, that if we will abide in him, then he will abide in us.

1 John 4: 13,....hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his spirit....

Every person who has trusted in Christ as their savior, has been given the incomparable gift of the permanently indwelling Holy Spirit, as proof from God, that we live in him, and he in us. For this reason, we are to be an influential witness to a world dying in their sins.

2 Corinthians 1: 3 – 7,....blessed be God....the Father of our Lord....the God of all comfort....who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in trouble, by the comfort where with we ourselves are comforted of God....the sufferings of Christ abound in us....our consolation aboundeth by Christ....whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation....our hope....is.....knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation....

In order to receive the blessings of Gods comfort, we must begin to know the truths about God. He is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he is the Father of mercies, he is the source of all mercies, because mercy originates with him, and can be secured only by him. God is the God of all comfort, the ultimate source of our motivation and encouragement. God comforts us when we go through difficult times, and more importantly he comforts us so that we might share that comfort with others who are going through similar times in their lives. Now, just because God has blessed us with the ability to share our comfort with others, do not be surprised when they reject it. But, rest assured, and be very confident in the truth, that God is always in control. He has filled us with a strong and steadfast hope to work for others, providing consolation and salvation, so that they might share in the comfort that we have experienced.

Psalm 94: 17 – 19,....unless the Lord had been my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence....my foot slippeth, thy mercy....held me up....in the multitude of my thoughts within me, thy comforts delight in my soul....

If we will allow it, through the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, the word will provide us with insight concerning the characteristics of God. This in return will provide unto us answers, concerning our afflictions, which will help us to refocus our perspective and provide solutions to the daily situations that we are going through.

John 14: 11 - 20,....he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also....what soever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son....I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever....I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you....

Christ, through his word, reassures us daily that we will never be abandoned or left without help. Because of sin, often time our relationship or communication with God might seem separated, but it will never end. This is because the Holy Spirit permanently lives within those, who by faith believing, have accepted Christ as their savior.

2 Corinthians 1: 8 – 11,....we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble....we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life....but....we should not trust in ourselves, but in God....who delivered us....and doth deliver, in whom we trust....ye also helping together by prayer....that....the gift....may be given by many on our behalf....

Whatever we might face in our life as Christians, we can rest assured, that we can put our faith, our trust, and our hope in God, for deliverance. We cannot trust in ourselves, or in others, but we must trust in God. God will often time use suffering to cause us to lean upon him even more. By doing so, the consolation of Gods promises that we will receive, will be much greater than the suffering that we have been asked to bear.

1 Peter 2: 20,....what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? But if, when you do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable to God....

Sadly, as Christians, we need a constant reminder of the wonderful joy that we have in Christ Jesus, and even though we know our position in Christ, and the living hope that we have in him, that comes unto us through our salvation by faith believing in him, we are called to follow in his footsteps, and to conduct ourselves in a manner that is glorifying unto God.

1 Peter **3**: **14**,....but and if ye suffer for righteous sake, happy are ye....

We live in a world where sin, sorrow, pain, and even death is a part of all our lives. As Christians, we should not feel threatened or intimidated, we are not to fear or to be troubled, and we should not retreat from suffering for righteousness sake, but we should regard it as a privilege, and an honour, knowing that the blessing of Gods comfort is not just going to comfort us, but will help us to share that comfort with others who are struggling as well. Remember, whatever we are facing, God will deliver us if, we will put our trust in him.

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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