

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

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

How much do we give back to God.

## Psalm 24: 1

Do we really believe that all things which we have, ultimately belong to God. Humanity see's this as a very confusing topic because of the way that Satan deceives people into seeing the world around us. This deception starts with the question, how can a God of love create, and allow such devastating circumstances to take place in this world. Those who have not yet believed, along with those who have believed, but have yet to put their complete faith and trust in the Lord, cannot see that the world is in rebellion against God. Mankind only see's a world that is suffering, but never wanting to recognize that the suffering is the result of sinful rebellion, at which they are in denial of, and a part of. Sadly, humanity cannot, and does not see the world that God intended. Therefore, humanity goes through their religious rituals, but they never have a true relationship with God. This is because humanity depends upon outward religions and rituals, while God is only interested in the inward work that is in the heart. God is looking for a people, who are spiritually minded, spiritually oriented, those who are thirsting after him for righteousness's sake, in their heart and in their life, willing to live by faith, wholly and completely dedicated to him. So, we must ask ourselves, how much do we give back to God, for it is God that has given his all to us.

**Psalm 24: 1,....**The earth is the Lords, and the fullness thereof, the world, and all that dwell therein....

As believers, we understand that God is the creator and sustainer of the universe. He is omnipotent, omniscience, and omnipresent. It is very important to us that he is God, because he is the one who has set eternity into the hearts of all humanity, so that by faith, in his only begotten Son, we might have forgiveness of sin and everlasting life.

Because everything is the Lords, he is devoted to taking care of it. We belong to God because God first loved us. Creation did not just happen, God planned it from eternity past. Everything has worked as it does because it was well designed, and it is because of this that we are able to see Gods passion and love for the earth, and all that is in it. So, who is worthy to be like God, no one is, yet he created us, and takes care of us, and provides unto us an eternal home with him, if only we will choose to believe in his Son. This is how we begin to give back to God.

Placing our life in Gods hands, how does that work?

**Romans 10: 9 – 11,....**if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus Christ, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved....with the heart man believeth unto righteousness....with the mouth confession is made unto salvation....whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed....

God alone knows the heart of man, it is he alone who knows when one believes in their heart that Christ died for the sins of man and then rose again. Once the decision to trust in Christ for salvation is made within the heart of man, it is then that by the power of the Holy Spirit that we are transformed, and it is by that same spirit that dwells within us that we are able to freely confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**1 Corinthians 12: 3,....**no man can say that Jesus is Lord, but by the Holy Ghost....

Now that we have placed our life in God's hands, how do we start giving back to him.

**1 Peter 4: 11,....**if any man speak, let him speak as the oracle of God, if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth, that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ....

As believers, we are to see all that we have as gifts from God, gifts that God makes available to us to serve him, and to serve one another. When we stop living to fulfill our own petty desires, it is then that we will begin living our life with a higher purpose in mind, which means living for the will of God. Now, our gifts differ according to the grace of God, and we are instructed to use them accordingly to the proportion of his faith that we have received.

**Romans 6: 22,....**now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life....

Trusting in Christ for our salvation means that we have entered into that same relationship with God. Therefore, our identity is closely connected with the characteristics of God. This means that our fruit, which is the natural consequences of our righteousness in Christ, is the blessing of the process of being changed to become more Christlike, holy and acceptable, belonging to God with the promise of eternal life.

**Psalms 119: 112,....**I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, even unto the end....

As Christians, we have put our trust in Christ, and now he has intrusted us with the responsibilities of his work, to perform that work on his behalf. He has called us to labor for him in the appointed time that he has given unto us. Remember, our life is not about ourselves, it is about God working through us in service to others.

**2 Corinthians 12: 15,....**and I will very gladly spend and be spent for you, though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved....

Would we, as believers, gladly pour out our life in sacrificial service to a group of immature believers, even if it would mean that it would bring them into spiritual maturity, and Christlike living. A great part of giving back to God means having a genuine desire for the spiritual wellbeing of others. We must be willing to become a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, having the love of God for those who need to hear the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Romans 12: 1,....**I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, which is your reasonable service....

**Luke 9: 23,....**if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me....

The more that we mature in our spiritual life in Christ, the more that we will understand the difference between just being saved and following after Christ as a servant of his. We are saved by grace, through faith, by what Christ has done for us on the cross, therefore we take up our cross daily, by walking in the way of the cross. This means that we do not just hear the word, but we listen to the word, and we become a doer of the word, applying it to every circumstance in our life.

**James 1: 22,....**be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves....

The Christian who grumbles in his circumstances forgets that he is a servant of God. A true servant of God will put his complete trust in the Lord.

**1 Timothy 2: 1 – 8,....**I exhort therefore....supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men....that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness....this is good and acceptable in the sight of God....who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of truth....where unto I am ordained....I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not....without wrath and doubting....

Giving unto God means just that, giving oneself in prayer, in study, in meditation, in service, which we do for the salvation of all mankind. This is our service, and the will of God, that all might come to the knowledge of the truth, of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. So, how much do we give back to God, how much should we give back to God, he gave unto us his all, we must give him our all.

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/>





