Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

3.26.2023

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.

Our Greatest Possessions

Psalm 118: 28

What are our greatest possessions in life? The greatest possessions that anyone could own is something that we already have, something that we possessed even before we were born.

Ephesians 1: 4 - 7,....he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him in love....having predestined us....according to the good pleasure of his will....wherein he hath made us accepted....in whom we have redemption....

This means that our earthly parents could not provide it for us, it could only come from our heavenly Father. Now, although every human being that has been born upon this earth possesses this extraordinary gift from God, it does not mean that all who possess it will one day live eternally with the God who provided it unto them. This is because God does not make our decisions in life for us, he has given unto us the choice to either become obedient to him, or reject him. The destiny of our soul depends upon the choices that we make. **Deuteronomy 30:** 15 – 20,....I have set before the this day life and good, death and evil....in that I command thee....to love the Lord thy God....but if thine heart turn away....I denounce you this day....therefore choose life....that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice....

Galatians 6: 7 – 8,.... whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he reap....

John 3: 16,....that whosoever believeth upon him....

Therefore, it is God and his gift of our immortal soul that is our greatest possession.

Genesis 2: 7,....the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul....

It is our immortal soul that will live forever and return to the God who gave it unto us.

Ecclesiastes 12: 7,....then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it....

According to the choices in which we have made, our immortal soul will either live with God eternally, or it will be condemned to an eternal lake of fire, completely separated from God. Therefore, let us ponder Gods own words, when he says that he is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter **3**: **9**,....the Lord is not slack concerning his promise....but is long suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance....

With this in mind, we are going to turn to the 118 Psalm, and talk for just a few minutes about our greatest possessions.

Psalm 118: 28,....thou art my God, and I will praise thee, thou art my God, I will exalt thee....

Remember Genesis 2: 7,....the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul....

God is, and has given unto us our greatest possession, himself as our immortal soul. As Christians, we have the privilege to say that the one true God is both our greatest possession, and, also a personal God unto us, because we have made the choice to become obedient unto him, through faith believing upon his Son, Jesus Christ, which has given unto us the ability to know him, to walk with him, and to tell others about him.

John 17: 3,....this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent....

By believing upon Christ, God can declare us holy because he has set us apart by giving unto us our greatest possession, which was himself through his breath of life. Now it is our responsibility to choose to walk in the reality of his holiness. God has done this for one particular reason, and that reason is his considerable love for us. God is faithful, he is loyal, he is unchanging, and his commitment to us never waivers. God and our God given immortal soul is our greatest possession, and we are his most treasured possession. Therefore, he watches over us, he protects us, he takes care of us, and all we must do is trust in him.

James 4: 8,....draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you....

As Christians, we are eternally united to Christ by faith, and once we are saved by his grace, then there is nothing that can remove us from his heavenly family. However, worldly sinfulness, if we allow it to do so can disrupt our relationship with God. Just as sin separates the unbeliever from God, sin will break the believer's relationship with God until the time that we confess our wrong doings and repent of those sins. Sin causes a barrier between the believer and God, but as we simply confess our faults to him, he will restore us, he will cleanse us, he will purify us, and he will reestablish our fellowship with him, through the indwelling Holy Spirit. Those who, by faith, are covered in the righteousness of Christ and have been given the right to draw close to him, in return God has promised to draw close to us. This wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of God, is given unto us by means of his written word.

Hebrews 4: 12,....the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit....and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart....

Christ is the living word of God, and all that he is, is a distinction to all that we are. God's word of truth exposes everything in us that is not of him. God's word will show unto us the difference between our self-righteous actions, thoughts, and motives, and his godly will for our life. The spirit of God is able to judge the deepest thoughts and intentions of every man's heart. Every written word is life and truth, and gives spiritual strength to all who will believe. Gods purpose is to conform us into the image and likeness of Christ. The effect of God's word on the soul of every believer is a lifelong process, which will not be completed until the resurrection of the church, or that our time here upon this earth is complete in Christ. We must hold fast to the everlasting truth of God's word, and allow him to complete the good work that he has started within us, which is for our eternal good, and for his greater glory.

Proverbs 7: $1 - 3, \dots$ keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee....keep my commandments and live....bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of theine heart....

When it comes to our greatest possession, what we seek after the most in life is what we care about the most. So, to what do we give the majority of our attention? If we do not cling to the truth of God's word, then we will be spiritually blind to the worldly sinfulness that wages war against our soul. God wants his word to obtain our constant attention, so that it becomes our lifelong affection.

Luke 21: 19,....in your patience possess ye your souls....

Many Christians prefer to be content with their salvation instead of growing in faith, and spiritually maturing so as to create and to build our soul according to the new life that God has placed within us. We fail, because we do not realize, or understand that which we possess, we are spiritually ignorant to the ways of God. Just think what we could do if we would cherish the truth of God's word. We must learn to take possession of our greatest gift, which is God and the immortal soul that he has blessed us with, and the beginning of that possession is the saving grace of Jesus Christ. We must learn to understand our salvation, in order to know our greatest possessions.

John 4: 24,....verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life....

There will be those who accept salvation and never go onto mature in the Lord, they will never come to understand their salvation, they will never come to understand what they were saved from. So then, they will never know the importance of their greatest possessions. If we, as believers, truly understand our salvation, then we would realize that our eternal life with Christ began the moment that we believed, not when we leave this world as some would think. Therefore, we must strive to cling to the promises and commands given forth to us in the word of God, and those promises and commands are to follow after the desires of the Lord himself.

1 Timothy **2**: **4**,....who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth....

This is our greatest possession.

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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