

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

4.30.2023

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.

The Light of the World

John 8: 12 – 20, 12: 44 – 46

Mankind can only know God through his Son, Christ Jesus. Mankind can only come to God through his Son, Christ Jesus. Mankind can only know the Son, Christ Jesus by faith believing in his crucifixion and resurrection. This means that mankind needs spiritual understanding. In order for mankind to gain spiritual understanding, we must desire spiritual understanding. This desire can only come through the saving grace of Jesus Christ. So, all of humanity must come to the knowledge, whether we want to admit it or not, we must come to the knowledge that our existence in this world is only possible because of Christ Jesus, and if we are to have an eternal existence, that also can only come through Christ Jesus. Therefore, through the saving grace of Jesus Christ we are given the wisdom that we need, along with the promise, that if we will follow after Gods will and purpose for our life, then we will gain understanding through his word. Godly understanding, when applied to our life, gives unto us the ability to make daily decisions, so that we might walk in the light of Christ, and not in the darkness of this world.

John 18: 12 – 16,....then spake Jesus....I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness....the Pharisees....said....thou barest record of thyself, thy record is not true....Jesus answered....though I bare record of myself, yet my record is true, for I know whence I came, and whither I go, but ye cannot tell whence I came, and whether I go....ye judge after the flesh, I judge no man....if I judge, my judgement is true....I and my Father that sent me....

Even though God is in control of all things, because of sin and the fallen state of man, humanity lives in spiritual darkness. There is only one eternal hope of overcoming this spiritual darkness, and that is through Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who is the light of the world.

No other source of spiritual truth is available to humanity, other than Christ himself. The one condition of having this truth, is following Christ, and following Christ means taking the light of Christ into the darkness of sin, which is in the hearts of those who are not following after him.

1 John 1: 5 – 7,....this then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all....if we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we, lie, and do not the truth....but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin....

As believers, do we live according to Gods ways? We are called to live according to Gods ways, but we still sin, and therefore find ourselves in need of forgiveness.

Romans 3: 23,....for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God....

Christ sacrifice on the cross removed the penalty of all sin, past, present, and future. This means that those who trust in Christ are forgiven, even from the sins that they are not yet aware of. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the awareness of these sins are brought to our attention, and it is then that we must confess these sins, and they will be forgiven.

1 John 1: 9,....if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness....

Sin is the cause of our broken fellowship with God. Those who are out of fellowship with God are walking in darkness. As we live our life here upon this earth, we are living in a fallen state of man with a sinful nature. In this fallen state of man, we can never achieve sinless perfection, but we can choose to strive for that perfection, by dying to self and living in the light of Christ, or we can simply ignore it.

James 1: 4,....but let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire wanting nothing....

Those who simply just want to ignore or reject Gods word do so that they can follow after their own worldly desires, and this they do by claiming that his word is not true. People who do not want to become obedient to Gods word, and follow Christ, will come up with all sorts of reasons why his word is not based upon the truth. Christ himself said, if I would act independently of my Father, then my witness would be invalid. Therefore, those who walk according to the world, in disobedience to the word of God, are living in a false sense of deception as an example to their own salvation. In doing so, we are not judging or forming our opinion after God, but after the flesh, which is worldly sinfulness. Christ said my judgement is true. Everything that Christ has done, he did it in truth, because he depended upon the heavenly Father who sent him. Christ did not just have himself as a witness, but he also had the witness of the Father to confirm his works.

John 8: 17 – 20,....it is....written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true....I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me....then they said....where is the Father? Jesus answered, ye neither know me, nor my Father, if you had known me, ye should have known my Father also....these words spake Jesus....as he taught in the temple, and no man laid hands on him, for his hour had not yet come....

Although mankind has plenty of proof as to who Jesus is, they refuse to acknowledge that truth, because their thinking is according to the sinful terms and conditions of the world, which does not follow after the truth of God's word. The truth of God's word reveals the ignorance of the flesh.

Ephesians 4: 18,....having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart....

Christ was the one single example to all of humanity of how God wants mankind to live, which is in spirit and in truth, wholly and completely submitted to the will of God. Man, who is the only created being that is made in the image and likeness of God was created to represent God, and was appointed to watch over his creation, but because of deception, and mankind's choice of disobedience, he has now rendered himself incapable of living in the way that God had purposed for him to live. Humanity became a slave to the bondage of sin, therefore we must learn to choose to trust in God's word, and to live by faith, so that we might once again be declared righteous in the sight of God.

John 12: 44 – 46,....Jesus cried and said, he that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me....and he that seeth me seeth him that sent me....I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness....

It is often time difficult to comprehend the lack of spiritual understanding. Many think that they have insight into spirituality, but their knowledge is false. That is why it is very important to always focus on the most important matter first in our life and in the lives of others, and that is, we must believe upon the lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved.

Christ came into this world so that our eyes might be opened to the truth of his word, and in doing so our feet might be directed into the pathway of righteousness. Christ did not just point us toward the light, but he identified himself as that true light who came into the world, a light that the darkness of the world can never overcome. Without Christ, man would forever be blinded to the truth of the gospel of Gods saving grace. God's word is a lamp unto our feet and a guiding light to our pathway.

Psalm 119: 105,....thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path....

It is not just the external difficulties that we face in life that cause our distress, but there is also the internal weakness of the mind that cause emotional anxiety and worry. The word of God provides a sure foundation on which we can stand, a secure guideline that will help restore us into a right relationship with God. The word of God is a lamp that cannot be extinguished and radiates light to a sin darkened world. God's word is the light of truth that was given for our learning, to lead us, and to guide us by Gods truth. It contains wisdom and knowledge to guide our thinking, it shows unto us promises in which to encourage our hearts, and gives unto us godly instruction on how to live our lives according to the perfect desires of God. We should do well to read, meditate, and learn the word of God, to guard it within our hearts, because it is Gods measure of leading us into his holiness, and into his way of truth.

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://hollowolfarm.com/>

