

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

5.14.2023

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 Resurrection and the Life

John 11: 17 – 27

Often time, it is very hard for the believer to understand Gods timing in conjunction with our spiritual life here upon this earth, and also with our eternal life, which we will one day have with him. We need to understand that there is a purpose and a reason, not just for the things that are happening in our life, but also for the things that are not happening in our life, this even means the circumstances or situations that we feel should be taking place in our life. We are all guilty of planning out our own life, which sometimes works out, but many times it does not. When things do not work out the way that we think that they should, it is then that we find that disappointment and discouragement take over our lives. These are worldly emotions, that, if we allow, will take control of our life, and keep us from confiding and trusting in the Lord, so that he may bring us into the place where we need to be with him. Instead, we end up in an emotional state of anxiety and worry, which leads to frustration and anger, a place where we will blame all of our concerns upon someone other than ourselves. God has never promised that our life would be according to our own desires, but he has told us that there is a purpose for it all.

Ecclesiastes 3: 1,....To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven....

Every day that we have here upon this earth is a gift of Gods grace, and even though our lives seem to change in a blink of an eye, God has a powerful purpose for each moment of our life. Recognizing, that each and every day that we have belongs to God, will help us to celebrate each day, by glorifying God, and trusting in him, and being thankful for the spiritual and the eternal life that God has provided unto us.

John 11: 17 – 22,....when Jesus came, he found that he had laid in the grave four days already....many of the Jews came to....comfort them concerning there brother....Martha....heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him....then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died....but I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee....

Every time, place, and purpose with the Lord is no accident, but an arrangement, with an ultimate reason and purpose, which will include a positive response from all of those who witness its purpose, a response that will glorify God. The plans that God has in store for us will always exceed our own greatest spiritual expectations, because Gods plan is always set up for what we are meant to be doing, and not what we expect we should be doing.

Often time, we tend to act hastily, without thinking, because we are trying to avoid the reality of the choice which we have made. When we put our hope in the Lord, we will find that we can stand firm in his strength, and power, and might, knowing that God is there, and he is still in control. Many believers do not understand the purpose of God, but, if we will allow it to do so, Gods word will speak unto us, and lead us in the way of his righteousness, so that we do not have to rely upon ourselves, but to rely upon God. The only way that we can trust Gods timing is by spending more time with him, in his word, allowing it to shape our hearts and our minds. When we find ourselves not liking a situation that we are in, we will see that through patience and obedience to his word we can become that which God wants us to be.

Proverbs 16: 9,....a mans heart deviseth his way, but the Lord directeth his steps....

Now, Martha went to meet Jesus, and when she met him she acknowledged his power and authority by saying, if he (Christ) would have been here, her brother would not have died, and even though she recognized her brothers death, she still retained the faith that whatever Christ would ask of the Father, that he would do.

There are many lessons that we as believers must learn, and it will take a lifetime to accomplish even a small portion of these lessons. We should earnestly seek to develop our trust in the Lord, as we grow in grace, and in the knowledge of God. We make plans for the future, plans of how that we are going to achieve our desired goals, but let us remember that God is the one who establishes our steps, and he is the one who directs our path. God in his grace, will bring us into his desired destination, if we will allow him to, but it may be a completely different way than we could have thought possible. God not only knows the future, but he holds the future in his hands. What a comfort it is to know that while we have the freedom to choose to make our own plans, by allowing God to do so, he will direct us into the way that is best for us to go.

John 11: 23 – 25,....Jesus saith....thy brother shall rise again....Martha saith....I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection of the last day....Jesus saith, I am the resurrection, and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live....

Death means separation. Physical death is separation of the body, soul, and spirit. Spiritual death means that we are separated from God, we have no relationship with him. Eternal death means permanently separated from God with an eternity to spend in hell. Now, for those who by faith, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, physical death will come, but eternal death never will. Once that we have become part of Gods family, from that moment on we possess eternal life.

Jerimiah 29: 11,....for I know the thoughts that I think toward you saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end....

Jeremiah's message was a message of comfort to the people, from the Lord. It was a promise from God concerning his never-ending, never-failing faithfulness of love toward all of mankind. God promises that through patience and obedience to his word, that believers will prosper in their spiritual maturity. It is Gods desire to give unto all of humanity an eternal hope. We have his assurance that whatever we might face in life, Gods desire of goodness, which comes through his endless mercy and grace, is what he has in store for us.

John 11: 26 – 27,....whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, yes, Lord, I believe that thou art Christ, the Son of God, which should come into this world....

Gods timing is always perfect, and there is a difference between Gods outlook and our own, this is because he is an eternal being without beginning or end.

Often time, like Martha, who had sent an urgent message to the Lord to come quickly, we pray an urgent message for the Lord to work quickly in our life. But sometimes Christ will delay his answer for a purpose, and that purpose would be that the outcome of our circumstance might glorify God. God knows that our confession of faith is true, when like Martha, we declare our faith even before his miraculous work takes place in our life. This means that there is no other way to gain the promises of God, except by first putting our faith in Christ.

Lamentations 3: 25,....the Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him....

God is good to those that wait upon him, those who submit to his perfect will, those who trust in his unfailing word. God is good to those who search for him, for he is not far away from any of us, and will be found by us, if we search for him with our whole heart.

Jerimiah 29: 13,....and ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart....

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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