

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

9.17.2023

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. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

The Fall of Jericho

## Joshua 6: 2 – 4, 12 – 20

Are there times in our life in Christ when we question the commandments and promises of God. Every time that we ignore the truth of God's word, we are disobedient to his promises, and therefore question why it is that we should listen to God. Following after the promises and commandments of God, proves our love for Christ, and shows our faith and belief in the work that Christ has done on our behalf on the cross. Now, even though, to become a believer, it requires obedience, we also must understand what we are obeying, and why we are obeying it. Christ gave unto us his love freely, and once that we accepted it, he wants us to remain in it, obedience to Gods word is how that we remain in the love of Christ.

**John 15: 9 – 10,....**as the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you, continue ye in my love, even as I have kept my Fathers commandments, and abide in his love....

What is the significance of following after the commandments of God. When we are obedient to the commandments of God, we discover that his love for us is stronger than life, and more powerful than death. As we remain connected to him, we draw from his wisdom and strength, and his power and his grace, which helps us in overcoming our worldly fear, so that we might discover the benefit of the simplicity of following his purpose and plan for our life. Nothing excites our life in Christ more readily than experiencing the knowledge, the knowledge that we are so deeply loved by God himself, through Christ Jesus, and we know that every promise, every command, every predetermined action exists so that his joy might remain in us, and that our joy might remain full.

**John 15: 11,....**these things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full....

Gods purpose for us is not to restrict our lives, but to give unto us abundant life. For this reason, he shows unto us by example, through his word, what it means to follow the Fathers will, even when circumstances, and situations in our life might seem frightful and grim. Ultimately, obedience on our part not only leads to Gods glory, but also brings into our life the blessings of Gods eternal perspective and value.

Remember, Christ experienced the same temptations of disobedience that we experience, and was yet without sin, because he knew that the Fathers plan for his life was not only for his own glory, but was also for the glory of the Father, and for the edifying of the body of Christ.

**Hebrews 4: 14 – 15,....**seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession....for we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin....

Obedience to Gods word might bring temporary hatred from the world, but it is all a part of Gods plan to redeem humanity from sin. While we are tempted, and often time sin, Christ shows unto us that we can be tempted in every way and still remain sinless. Experiencing temptation is not a sin, and through prayer, study, meditation, and obedience to the word of God, we will understand and recognize the difference between temptation and pursuing the actions of our temptations. No matter what lure of deception that we may be experiencing, God will give unto us a way to respond to temptation without violating Gods will for our life.

**1 Corinthians 10: 13,....**there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it....

Let us as Christians, never assume, that our salvation will bring unto us immunity from the consequences of our actions, because it is these consequences that serve as a warning unto us, that we should not be careless in our standing in Christ. Temptation, and deception, is a routine part of our life, and our worldly desire to follow after these temptations may often time feel greater than our desire to do what is right in the eyes of God. In response to this type of worldly fear, God gives unto us his word of assurance that he is never waiting for us to fail, but he is waiting and willing to help us, by actively working in our lives to keep us from ever being tempted beyond that which we can resist. God promises unto us through his word, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can respond to any given temptation by resisting it. Therefore, by doing what is right and pleasing unto God, and following his promises and commandments for our life, we might be successful in his eternal hope, in the body of Christ.

**Joshua 6: 2 – 4, 12 – 17,....**the Lord said unto Joshua....I have given into thine hand Jericho....ye shall compass the city....once....this shalt thou do six days....the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times....Joshua rose up early in the morning....took the ark of the Lord....the second day they compassed the city once....so they did six days....the seventh day....they....compassed the city....seven times....at the seventh time....Joshua said....shout, for the Lord hath given unto you the city....the city shall be accursed....only Rahab....shall live....because she hid the messengers....

God reveals unto mankind that he is faithful and trustworthy, and therefore, we should do the same in return for him. In order to do the same, we must understand faithfulness. Faithfulness is the act of being true to your promises, which is our ability to follow through on our commitment of dedication unto the Lord. Often time, we mistakenly compare Gods faithfulness to our own, self-righteous faithfulness, but Gods faithfulness is never, sometimes on or sometimes off, Gods faithfulness goes far beyond any success we could ever have on our own.

**Lamentations 3: 22 – 23,....**it is of the Lords mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not....they are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness....

Our unbelief will cause us to look at the circumstances in our life as overwhelming and hopeless. But a life of faith is founded on Christ Jesus, who is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. His steadfast love for mankind never ceases and his mercies never come to an end. Although, as believers, we still sin, and grieve the Holy Spirit, Gods forgiveness is always available. Remember, God is for us, not against us.

**Hebrews 13: 8,....**Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever....

Gods plan and purpose does not change. Therefore, it has been his intent, even before the foundation of the world as we know it, to give unto mankind, grace, and mercy, so that our faith in Christ might become complete. Christ does not change, and neither does the gospel of his saving grace. God does not change, and neither does the truth of his word. The gospel of grace is timeless, it is changeless, and it is eternal, and it inspires mankind to trust in its truth.

**Joshua 6: 18 – 20**,....and ye....keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest you make yourselves accursed....all the silver and gold....brass and iron, are consecrated unto the Lord....so....the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat....

Gods work, when done Gods way, will always be victorious. God gives unto us his promises, God also gives unto us detailed instructions of the procedures needed to carry out his promises and commands. Just imagine, moments in our Christian life, when we have stopped moving forward, then, an earth shattering blast from the Holy Spirit, which indwells within us, assures us of our faith, and our trust in Christ, and now that wall of separation between us and God begins to crumble, and we begin to see the glory of the Lord at work in our lives, and in the lives of those around us.

**John 1: 14**,....and the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and 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.

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