

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

10.8.2023

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.

Is God the Greatest Passion of Our Life

## **1 Timothy 6: 17 – 19**

What is our greatest passion in life? Is the greatest passion in our life, Christ? Is our passions in line with the will of God? God expects us to give to him completely of everything that we are without holding anything back, and without any hesitation. Loving God must be our passion, and it must be so strong within our hearts that no matter what happens in our life, our passion to love God, with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our mind can never be ended. Now, loving God also means that just as Christ sacrificed his all for us, we must make sacrifices in our life for him. But let us never forget that the reward is greater than the sacrifice. Therefore, our passion for our life in Christ must be translated into our lives, through our actions, which means that our faith, and trust in the Lord, must be reflected in our service to the Lord. So, what are some of the ways in which we are an example of our passion of our life in Christ. Our devotion in prayer, our devotion in our study of the commandments and promises of Gods word, and our devotion in sharing the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ with others. Now, let us not portray an emotion of obligation as an opportunity of necessity of pour passion, because an obligation is something that you would have to do, our passion is something that we would do willingly even if we did not have to.

**1 Corinthians 9: 14, 16 – 19, 22 – 23,....**the Lord hath ordained that they which preach the gospel should live the gospel....though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of....for if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward....what is my reward then? verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel....though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all....I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some....and this I do for the gospels sake....

What motivates us to proclaim God as the greatest passion of our lives? First of all, it is Gods call for us to come into his service, and secondly it is the people of whom God sends unto us, those whom he places within our lives, which is of a great motivation, that shapes our proclamation for our passion for God. As believers, we must submit ourselves to the needs of others for the sake of the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Now this does not mean that we must lose our own identity in the Lord, but that we gain in our characteristics as we walk along side of all kinds of people in order to draw them unto God. Our passion is our motivation to submit ourselves to a life in Christ that is totally and wholly committed to minister the truth of Gods word to all of mankind. Therefore, we are not to compromise Gods moral standards which are set forth in his word, just so that we may fit in with the world. In this we know that our message of the gospel is offensive to worldly pride, and it contradicts the works of the sinful nature, therefore, we must be willing to humble ourselves so that our goal as a Christian is to be unoffensive in every way in our example of the mercy, grace, compassion, and love of Christ, and therefore let the message of the cross of Christ itself be the offense that those who do not, or will not believe, let that be the offense which they experiencing in their life.

**1 Timothy 6: 17 – 19,....**charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high minded, not trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, which giveth us richly all things to enjoy, that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life....

All wisdom is from God, and all that we need to learn that wisdom and knowledge is given unto us in his word.

**Proverbs 9: 10,....**the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding....

Wisdom and knowledge come by faith, and faith comes by trusting in the Lord at all times, and for all things. We should not trust in our own abilities, but we should maintain our hope in the Lord no matter what our circumstances may be. Real wisdom is found through trusting in the word of God in all things and believing that he will supply all that we need to grow in faith and mature spiritually in our life in Christ. It should be a great joy in our life to be willing to share with others what we have received from the Lord.

**Galatians 6: 10,....**as we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith....

Sharing with others, keeps us from pridefulness, and will help us to be a blessing unto others, which means standing approved before God. This means that as believers we should have the ability to share anywhere and at any time. When people hear the word Christian, or believer, the first thing that they should see in our life in Christ should be: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, greatness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. This means that we are to:

**Matthew 5: 16,....**let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven....

Now in our God given ability to do good we must not overlook our priority to do good to all men. How we treat others is a sign of our faith and trust in God. No matter what our situation or circumstance, God will always give unto us a way to do something good for someone, and all to his glory. Remember, even a small amount of goodness is better than no goodness at all, and a small amount can still have a great impact on someone's life.

**Acts 20: 35,....**I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, it is more blessed to give then to receive....

As believers, we can give without loving, but we cannot love without giving, the essence of living a true life in Christ is knowing that the action of our giving is making ourselves available in offering our services to God and to others. The greatest of blessings will come to those who give, more so than to those who receive. Living our life in God, with him being the greatest passion in our life is our best example of giving, because he is the source of our giving. God always speaks unto us the truth of his word, he always says what he means, and means what he says.

Our love for God should be our greatest passion, and result will be our love for others. Satan will try to deceive us into believing that we need worldly passion to occupy our interests and our time, but it is God alone who is worthy of our love, our praise, and our thanksgiving.

**Psalm 102: 25 – 27,....**of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of thy hands....they shall perish, but thou shalt endure....but thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end....

Our love for God, our passion for him, will bring honor and glory unto him, because it is our love and passion for God that will give unto us a passion for his word. If we are passionate about the word of God and the gospel message of salvation that it brings, then we will be committed unto it. Our pray, our hope, our trust should be that our relationship with God is our most important passion, so that we might be able to say with all our heart:

Psalm 18: 1,....I will love thee, O lord, my strength....

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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