

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

12.24.2023

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 Light of Christmas

## **John 1: 1 – 5, Ephesians 5: 1 – 2, 6 – 14**

Christians should not live like non-believers but should live as those who have the light of God within. This is because, due to our salvation, we have been lifted up out of the sinfulness of this world and set into the gospel of God's grace. Our life in Christ, should be a daily walk in spirit and in truth, one that is pleasing unto God. Our life should be a reflection of the goodness and grace of God, it should be a reflection of his kindness and gentleness, his truth, his humility, and his patient endurance, a reflection of the love of God, through the sacrifice of the Son. Now, God in the beginning, commanded the light to shine out of darkness, and then when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth his Son to be the light of the world, to give light unto all that come into the world.

**Genesis 1: 3,....**and God said, let there be light, and there was light....

**Galatians 4: 14,....**but when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth his Son....

**John 1: 9,....**that was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world....

As Christians, having been saved by grace, we are living in the light of the Lord. Our union with Christ has brought us into his grace and his truth, so that we may live our life, becoming a witness to the world, a witness of the divine nature of God, so that others might see, and glorify the Father, which is in heaven.

**2 Corinthians 4: 6,....**for God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ....

It was God who spoke his word over the dark earth in the beginning so that there would be light, and it is the Holy Spirit who displaces the darkness in the heart of man at the moment, that by faith believing, mankind acknowledges Christ as savior of the world. Christ sufficiency through his knowledge, his wisdom, his grace, and his truth are instilled into the hearts of all who seek him with their whole heart.

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

As we come into a personal knowledge of the truth of Gods word, our relationship with Christ will be one of empowerment, so that our testimony will be one of enlightenment to the world, so that the world might see the need for salvation, and that the eyes of the blind might be opened to the truth of Gods gospel of grace.

**John 1: 1 – 5,....**in the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God....the same was in the beginning with God....all things were made by him....in him was life, and the life was the light of men....the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not....

Christ existence is portrayed unto us through the creation of the earth, and the source of that existence brought light into creation, and also into the eternal life unto all mankind. Therefore, those who reject the light of Christ have no spiritual understanding, nor do they have eternal life, for Christ is the giver of eternal life. Christ as the light, not only reveals and exposes our sinfulness, but illuminates a pathway to salvation through the awareness of the knowledge of his word. Christ gives unto mankind physical life, he offers unto all who will receive a spirit filled life through the indwelling Holy Spirit, and he promises unto those who have believed, eternal life. God the Father has made provisions through various ways from the beginning of time, provisions so that there can be no doubt regarding the aspect of the identity of Christ, which is that he is the light of the world. The message of salvation is one that Christ is the source of eternal life for all of mankind, because salvation and eternal life are found only in him.

**John 11: 25,....**Jesus saith unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live....

Nothing in the life of a Christian happens without a purpose, and every situation and circumstance in our life, whether good or bad, will be used by God, for our spiritual growth. Therefore, we must mature in our faith, and grow in his grace, and allow God to reveal unto us that every circumstance is an opportunity to develop our faith and trust in him. As Christians, our understanding of Christ and his redemptive work is incomplete, and if we allow, God will use our limited understanding to develop our faith, by using the circumstances in our life to help us in coming to a greater trust in his word. We must always remember that however small our faith may seem, God is working in our life daily to strengthen our trust in him so that we might learn to depend upon him, no matter what the circumstance.

**Ephesians 5: 1 – 2, 6 – 14,....**be ye therefore followers of God....walk in love, as Christ....hath loved us, and hath given himself for us....let no man deceive you....because of these things cometh the wrath of God....be not....partakers with them....for ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord, walk as children of light....proving what is acceptable unto the Lord....have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness....all things that are approved are made manifest by the light ....wherefore he saith, awake thou that sleepest....and Christ shall give thee light....

Christ himself shows unto us what the characteristic of God are like, for he is a perfect image of the Father. Therefore, our lives are to be a perfect image of Christ, the Son. Our lives are to be motivated by the same characteristics of God, and that characteristic is love. This is the kind of love that Christ showed unto all of mankind, on the cross. For this reason, as believers, the word of God warns us not to be deceived by a false imitation of worldly love, which is vain, and deceptive, and will bring sinfulness into our lives. Sinful living bears nothing that is profitable, or worthwhile into our life in Christ. As Christians, we are to lovingly, with compassion, speak out for that which is just and true, exposing sin for what it truly is. We are to bring Christ's light of salvation to a lost and dying world.

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

Christ experienced everything that we do as mortal man, and through it all he showed unto us the glory of God. Everything that Christ did brought praise and honour to God so that all who beheld his glory and believed will receive his free gift of salvation.

**John 8: 12,....**then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life....

As believers, we have been entrusted to carry the testimony of the light of Christ, by his love, into the world. We are commanded through his word to live our lives in a manner that is well pleasing unto him. Christ was born into the fallen race of mankind, so that his love might shine into the darkness of mans heart, to kindle a spark of hope, so that whosoever believes upon him, by grace, through faith, might be removed out of a state of separation from God, and be placed into the brightness of his eternal kingdom of light.

**Psalm 27: 1, 14,....**the Lord is the light of my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?....wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart, wait I say on the Lord....

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/>