

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

2.25.2024

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.

How Does God See Us

1 John 3: 1

If only we could see ourselves as God sees us. Now, in order for us to comprehend such a bold statement, we must answer the question, how does God see us? As believers, our identity is found rooted and grounded in the mercy and the grace of Christ. It is these truths that assure us of God's unconditional love for us. Remember, none of this is based upon what we do, rather it is established upon what God has already accomplished in us, through his Son, Christ.

Through our repentance, and through our acceptance of Christ death on the cross, which was on our behalf, God no longer sees our imperfections, instead, he sees in us the righteousness of his Son. We now have peace with God, and we are counted as part of the body of Christ. Now, since the grace of God has been extended unto us, we are now able to extend that grace unto others. Therefore, we need to align our thinking with the way that God sees us.

Ephesians 2: 10,....for we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them....

In order to understand how God sees us, we must gain insight into what God desires for us after salvation. God has prepared us for his purpose, and we are created in Christ Jesus for good works, but remember good works did not give unto us our salvation, but good works are absolutely meant to be the result of our salvation. We are wholly the result of Gods work, and we belong to him. Everything God creates is of value, yet nothing in creation compares to his creation of mankind, for we are his workmanship.

1 John 3: 1,....behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not....

It is the love of God, which was bestowed on all that believe in his Son, Jesus Christ, and we now possess the security of being called the children of God. This is a perfect love, a unique love, a divine love, a love that is eternal. We are accepted by God, which is what we are, and this is what we will remain. All that God has given unto his Son, belongs unto us as well, who are his children, sadly, we have only limited knowledge of what it truly means to be the children of God.

1 John 3: 2 – 3,....beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is....and every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure....

When do we begin to understand the greatness of our position in Christ? The incredible love, the remarkable privileges, the gracious gifts which we have received from God. When we begin to see God as he sees us, then will we recognize our position in Christ, and our union with him, being indwelt by the Holy Spirit, accepted by God, and all of this by his grace, through our faith in Christ, and his grace will continue into the eternal ages to come, and one day we will be like him, for we shall see him as he really is, the same as he sees us. This means that our ability to appreciate and understand the depth and fulness of Christ will only become complete in us at his return, when our spiritual eyes will become wide open, and finally we will understand what it means to say, I am a child of God.

1 John 4: 16,....and we have known and believed the love that God hath to us...God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him....

Herein lies the truth, which helps us to understand who God truly is, what he has done for us, what he is doing for us, and what he will continue to do for us, as long as we continue to place our trust in him, which is a matter of trusting in his word. God's word teaches us that we must come to know, accept, believe, and live for Christ, which is essential for our life as a believer. Our love for God, and our love for one another is how that we remain in him, and this is how that we continue growing in his Son, Christ. Our ability to show forth the love of Christ can only come from God, because the source of all love is the divine nature of God. This unlimited love is a testimony of our relationship with God. One of the ways that God desires to see us, is in how we care about the spiritual well-being of others. Christ laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our life for others, which means putting aside our own self-righteousness, and portraying unto others the righteousness of God. We must learn to see others the same way that God sees us.

Acts 10: 34,....Peter....said....of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons....

All who believe in the work of Christ are equally accepted by God into the body of Christ. God has no favorites, therefore, there is no partiality with God. This means that the offer of the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ is available unto all. Now, since life is short with no certainty, and eternity is forever, then the most important question anyone can answer is, how can I be saved, and come to know for certain that I am right with God. A man that is seeking after God is a man that God is working with, so as to draw him unto himself.

John 6: 44,....no man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him....

John 12: 32,....and I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me....

Why does God need to draw us unto salvation? If he didn't, we would never come to him, for we have not the ability or the desire to do so. So, how does God see us? God sees all mankind the same, and that is as his own, in need of salvation. Therefore, God sent his Son, so that he might exchange his righteousness for our sinfulness, for God cannot look upon sin, and through the convicting power of the Holy Spirit, he creates within us a desire to know him, to obey him, and to walk in the newness of his life. Because we are now in Christ, God sees us by seeing the righteousness of Christ that covers us. Therefore, he sees us as redeemed, justified, sanctified, and glorified. We are now seen by God as holy and blameless, because we are in Christ.

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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