

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Adult Sunday School Lesson

7.14.2024

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.

Esthers Bold Faith

## **Esther 3: 2 – 6, 4: 7 – 16**

Boldness to do Gods will begins with spiritual courage, which comes through the leadership and guidance of the Holy and encourages the believer to do the work of God regardless of the risks. Now, boldness should not be confused with aggressiveness, but it is an assertiveness that empowers the believer to speak the truth of God's word, when necessary, with the objective of glorifying God, and it compels the believer to speak his truth with love, even when it is not a welcomed conversation with others. Spiritual or Godly boldness is motivated by our love and passion for Christ, and the truth of his word. Spiritual boldness is not self-centered, for it requires us to set aside our natural, worldly emotions, so that we might speak boldly through Gods love, his compassion, and humility. Gods message through us should be a life-giving eternal message in which we find the assurance that God will use his message to impact our life.

**Acts 14: 3,....**long time abide they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands....

Having perseverance and courage in the face of opposition is often a very hard lesson to learn. Despite facing persecution and resistance, as believers, we must not allow worldly fear to keep us from speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. As believers, we must stand firm in our faith while proclaiming the gospel of grace no matter what challenge or opposition we might face. Our relationship with God should be such that our testimony relies upon him, which means that the Lord speaks through us, which is accomplished by his word of grace. The Lord God gives unto us everything that is needed to accomplish his will in our life. This he does for the purpose of establishing the truth of the gospel among all who will by faith, believe in the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Esther 3: 2 – 6,....**all the kings servants....reverenced Haman, for the king had so commanded....but Mordecai bowed not....the kings servants....said unto Mordecai, why transgresses....the kings commandment....then was Haman full of wrath....and he thought....to lay hands on Mordecai....

Humanity tends to measure their self-worth by the power and influence that they believe they have over others, and when this persuasion does not work, then everyone involved begins to become consumed with hatred.

Haman represents the sinful, self-centered old nature, while Mordecai represents the new nature which is led by the Holy Spirit of God. Today's scripture shows unto us of the battle that rages in the hearts of mankind, the conflict between the flesh and the spirit, and it is a conflict that will continue as long as we are living in this mortal body here on earth.

**Galatians 5: 16 – 17,....**walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh....for the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would....

Following after the flesh by doing whatever feels good to us will cause us to grow weak in our liberty in Christ, but if we remain steadfast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free then we have the opportunity to lead a more meaningful life of service unto God. Our flesh wants one thing and God's spirit wants something for us that is completely different. As believers, we are born of the spirit of God, with a new Christ like nature, reconciled unto God, so that we might not do the things that please ourselves, but that we might do that which is pleasing unto God. Could God have chosen to remove the old nature from us when we were saved, yes, he could have, but he chooses to allow the old nature to remain, so as to ensure that we maintain a surrendered dependence upon him through all things. So, although our old nature will continue to war with our new nature, we are instructed to yield to, and to follow after the spirit of God, so that we may not do the things desired by the flesh.

**1 John 4: 4,....**greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world....

The strengths of our enemy may be great, but the power of God is greater in strength and in might, for he is omnipotent, omniscience, and omnipresent, and all who have believed upon his Son, Jesus Christ, is endued with his power from on high. We are saved by grace through faith, and have become a new creature in Christ Jesus, and we are now commanded to grow in our spiritual maturity by the grace of God, and in our faith in Christ, for we are now identified with him through his shed blood.

**Esther 4: 7 – 12,....**Mordecai told him....all that had happened....and of the sum of momney....promised....to destroy them....he gave him a copy of the writing....to show it unto Esther....that she should go....unto the king....to make request....Esther, gave him commandment unto Mordecai....whosoever....shall come....who is not called....put him to death....except....shall hold out the golden scepter....I have not been called to come....they told to Mordecai Esthers words....

As believers, we are reminded through the word of God that we have indwelling within us the Holy Spirit of God, who empowers us with all that we need for life and for godliness, no matter how difficult or dangerous our life in this world might become. Even though we are saved by grace through faith there will be times in our life that we will experience worldly fear, and pressure, from the world around us. We learn through our obedience to the word of God that true strength does not come from relying on our own capabilities, but on Christ, for his strength is made perfect through our weakness.

**2 Corinthians 12: 9,....**my grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness....

**2 Timothy 1: 7,....**for God hath not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind....

Sound judgement comes from a disciplined mind, which can only be produced in us as we abide in Christ, and he in us.

**Esther 4: 13 – 16,....**Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, not with thyself....for if thou altogether holdest thy peace....then shall deliverance arise....from another place....but thou and thy fathers house shall be destroyed....Go, gather together all the jews....and so will I go unto the king, which is not according to the law, and if I perish, I perish....

As believers, we should not feel uneasy about our spiritual responsibilities, for God does not want worldly fear to hold us back in our ministry. Worldly fear can hinder our effectiveness to focus upon the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, which will keep us from sharing the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ unto others. Therefore, we must always rely upon God to give unto us his courage and his strength.

**John 16: 33,....**these things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace....In the world ye shall have tribulation, but ne of good cheer, I have overcome the world....

Becoming a Christians does not guarantee us an easy life in Christ. Christ made it clear unto us through his word that following after him would lead to persecution and suffering. Knowing this means that when hard times fall upon us, we have the assurance that these situations are for the purpose of encouragement, and not for us to react with worldly fear and confusion. These experiences are all a part of Gods perfect plan and will for our life. Therefore, whatever life's situations may be, and whatever challenges that we may face, we can take rest assured in God's love, because Christ has already overcome them all on our behalf.

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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