

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

10.6.2024

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.

Daniel Intercedes for Israel

Daniel 9: 4 – 14

For the believer, God uses means to fulfill his end, and one of those means is prayer. Everything in our life, and everything that is a part of our life is covered under the promises and commandments of God's word. So why do we, as believers, why do we pray for those things which God has already promised, or commanded unto us through his word? God wants us to understand the extraordinary privilege of our prayer life with him, therefore, through his word, he encourages us to pray, and not just to ask for things promised, but to ask for the fulfillment of those promises in our life. Prayer is one of the ways in which we not only serve God, but we show our obedience unto him through his word. Prayer is our means of obtaining the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of Gods solutions for the various situations and circumstances that arise not only in our life, but in the world around us. Prayer strengthens our faith and trust in the Lord, which secures us in our spiritual maturity. Gods promises to assure us that our prayers are not in vain, even if we do not specifically receive that which we have asked for. As believers, we should not see prayer as a way of persuading God to do our will here upon this earth, but rather we should see it as a means of accomplishing Gods will.

Now, for those situations and circumstances in which God delays his answers to our requests, it is according to our understanding of his wisdom to solutions of the happening in our life. Now, this does not mean that the answer cannot be found in the promises and commandments of his word, but it does mean that he would have us to be diligent and persistent in discerning what his will should be. Prayers that are encouraged by the indwelling Holy Spirit, which means prayers that are not prayed are prayers that are unanswered, and we will never see the result of answered prayers unless we pray. A lack of prayer demonstrates a lack of faith and trust in Gods word. Therefore, we pray to demonstrate our faith to God, for prayer is our primary means of seeing God at work in our lives, and also in the lives of others.

1 John 5: 14 – 15,....this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we will ask anything according to his will, he heareth us....and we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petition that we desired of him....

God acts according to his will, and not according to ours. Therefore, getting a positive answer to prayer is based upon whether or not we ask according to his will. Yes, God hears our prayers, but it should not come as a surprise to us that he responds to our prayers according to his will for our life.

2 Corinthians 5: 7,....for we walk by faith and not by sight....

As believers, we are commanded to walk by faith and not by sight. We are instructed to pray confidently, maintaining our trust in the word of God, remaining in our fellowship with God, by confessing our sins, and abiding in willing obedience to his word.

Hebrews 4: 16,....let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need....

1 John 1: 9,....if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness....

Even though our debt of sin was paid for on the cross, and through his resurrection, Christ insured that sin could no longer hold us in bondage, sin still seeks to retain authority in our lives, and for this reason, we are too often time willing to let ourselves become influenced by our old nature. Therefore, sin hinders our relationship with God, but if we confess these sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Daniel 9: 4 – 6,....I prayed unto the lord my God, and he made my confession, and said....we have sinned....by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgements, neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets....

When petitioning before the Lord, we are to include ourselves in our prayers, with forgiveness, which will help us to see that we are not just innocent victims and bystanders. We must learn to be willing to take responsibility, seeing ourselves as not just part of the solution, but also as part of the problem. In order to do so, we must always begin by recognizing that God is trustworthy, faithful, and merciful, and that he commands obedience from those who serve him. Sadly, just as it was in Daniels time, in today's world, the gospel is either ignored, or it is presented deceitfully, and untruthful, which changes the truth of God into a lie.

Romans 1: 24 – 25,....God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own heart....who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the creator....

The word of God warns the believer against the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

1 John 2: 16,....for all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lusts of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world....

God warns us through his word that disobedience will lead to consequences for those who in their heart have exchanged the truth of Gods word for a lie.

Daniel 9: 7 – 14,....O lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion....because of their trespasses that they have trespassed against thee....to the Lord our God belongs mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him, neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God....all....have transgressed thy law....we have sinned against him....he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us....all this evil is come upon us, yet we made not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand the truth....for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works....

As believers, we must learn to put blame where it belongs, which is to begin within ourselves first.

1 Peter 4: 17,....for the time is come that judgement must begin at the house of God, and if it first begin in us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?....

As an expression of his means, God gives mankind every opportunity to repent, but humanity does not see the need to seek after God's forgiveness and turn from all iniquities and recognize the truth of Gods word. For this reason, Satan will use false prophets to keep assuring mankind that all is well, so that they might continue to choose to follow after the sinful, lustful desires, instead of embracing the saving grace of Jesus Christ. As believers, we must learn that confessing sins without practicing our own confession is not helpful or beneficial. Therefore, let us recognize, as believers, that the Lords merciful forgiveness is our only hope, and that no one can escape the shame of sin without Gods help.

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://hollowowlfarm.com/>

