

Mt Lebanon Church

Sunday School Lesson

3.9.2025

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.

Build Up Your Faith

Jude 1: 17 – 25

How do we as believers avoid the deception that has been set before us by those who pretend to possess the power of God. These are those who pursue their own ungodly lust, spiritual predators, who live according to their sinful human desires, following the ways of the wickedness of the world. This means that there are those who claim to live by the truth of God's word but reject the will of God. Men who want to be seen as godly, and spiritual, but are not truly following after God, men who profess religion, but they do not have a legitimate relationship with God that is built upon the truth of his word. For this reason, they pick and choose their time of obedience unto God. Therefore, it is very important for us, as believers, to demonstrate a clear separation from those who claim to believe, but whose actions express otherwise, but even so, we are still obligated to lift them up in prayer, so that the power of God might prevail.

2 Timothy 3: 1 – 5,....in the last days perilous times shall come....men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boastful, proud, blasphemous, disobedient....unthankful, unholy....without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God....having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof, from such turn away....

As believers, we are to avoid interacting with those who present themselves as godly, but their actions are all just for show. It is the indwelling Holy Spirit that will reveal unto us those who speak of God, but live in sin, and the evidence is in the fact that the lives that they live are unchanged, for they dishonor the name of the Lord. False believers are destructive, for they are always pretending to learn obedience, but they are never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. True faith is evident in the good works of God in our life, for it is our faith in Christ that brings unto us justification and transformation, that which we so desperately need in our life.

Jude 1: 17 – 19,....beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken....of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ....they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own godly lusts....these be they who separate themselves....having not the spirit....

As the church, we will always face the challenges of false teachers, for it is these false teachers that undermine the true teachings of our faith, leading many astray with ungodly lifestyles and deceptive doctrines. As believers, we must hold fast to the truth of Gods word, which we have been taught by the indwelling Holy Spirit. Therefore, we must see challenges as warnings, so that we might become aware of the deception of those who oppose the truth of the gospel of God, for they live as if God does not exist. These false teachers know that whenever godliness does not exist in our mind, then the void can be filled with worldly lust. False teachers appear to be legitimate believers, but they are not, and for this reason, their influences can easily lead other believers astray, for they are only self-seeking individuals.

Romans 16: 17 – 18,....brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned, and avoid them....for they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by good words and fake speeches deceive the hearts of the simple....

The word of God warns us to watch out for anyone that joins in among us and begins to teach ideals that are different from the truth that we have been taught by Gods word, for this will cause divisions among us. This begins when these false teachers respectively begin to deceive people into taking sides, which will create obstacles that will set believers against one another.

Jude 1: 20 – 23,....ye, beloved, building up yourselves on....holy faith....keep yourselves in the love of God....looking for mercy....unto eternal life....some have compassion....others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire....

As believers, how do we defend against false teachers, we start by growing in the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of the truth of Gods word, and applying it unto our everyday lives in Christ. Slowly, and quietly the church is straying away from the truth of God's word, because of those who we as believers have allowed to creep in unaware, those pretending to be messengers of God, disguising themselves through various forms of eloquent speech and entertainment, deceiving many into following after their ungodly desires, and pulling us away from the simple truths of Gods word. Therefore, we must build up ourselves in faith, by walking in spirit and in truth, praying in the Holy Spirit, depending entirely upon God, so that we might live godly lives through his Son Christ Jesus. In doing so we will then encourage one another, seeking to build one another up in the faith.

Hebrews 13: 9,....be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines, for it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace, not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein....

As believers, we are not perfect, and therefore, often time, we misinterpret Gods word, and in doing so, the possibility exists that as we are searching for teachings that will improve our understanding of the truth of Gods word, that we might be led astray by those teachings that are different from what was originally given. Therefore, we must come to understand that, as believers, we are justified through faith, and strengthened by grace, and our salvation is not based upon an outward show through manmade rites and rituals, rules, and regulations, but by grace, through faith in Christ Jesus.

Jude 1: 24 – 25,....now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God....be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever....

As believers, in order to keep ourselves in the love of God, we must understand that it is God who keeps us. Our righteousness does not come from ourselves, but from God. Therefore, we need not have a continual fear of falling away from God, for when we rely upon his power, and not our own, then he is willing and able to keep us, and to present us blameless before himself.

The word of God from the beginning to the end points to Christ, and unto us our need for his saving grace. In doing so, it also shows unto us the many dangers which we need to be aware of, and that he is the only one who can keep us from yielding to temptation and falling into sin. By this, through the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will have the ability to identify and avoid the influences of false teachings and doctrines that are flooding the church today.

Therefore, the word of God encourages the believer to contend earnestly for the faith that will bring us into our spiritual maturity in Christ. We cannot keep ourselves from stumbling, but Christ can, therefore, we keep ourselves in his presence, casting all our care upon him, through faith, in spirit and in truth, for he alone is able to keep us from failing.

Let us Pray

If anyone has any questions or 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 that God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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