

Mt Lebanon Church

Sunday School Lesson

3.16.2025

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.

Jesus Is Coming

2 Peter 3: 3 – 15

As believers, we are called to share with others the work which Christ has done. Now, sharing our faith is not just a suggestion, but it is a commandment given unto us God, through his word. One of the best ways to share our faith in Christ is to live a life of obedience unto God, so that those around us might see the reality of what Christ has done for us in our life, for how can we expect the message that we share to change the world, if it does not first change us. Therefore, we are to teach and to preach the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and a great part of that message is that Christ will return for those, who by faith believing, have put their trust in him, for it is the promise of his return that helps to motivate us in our work in Christ. Therefore, it is our willing desire to be ever watchful for the Lord's return.

2 Peter 3: 3 – 7,....knowing this....there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts....saying, where is the power of his coming....they willingly are ignorant....that by the word of God....where by the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished....the heavens and earth....now, by the same word are....reserved unto fire against the day of judgement and perdition of ungodly men....

There always has been and always will be those who will doubt that Christ will return. These false teachers and prophets will continually try to deceive believers and attempt to lead many astray. Because there are those who doubt and deny that Christ one day will return for his people, it is these same false teachers who also claim that there will be no judgement for sin. This shows unto us, as believers, that these people who claim to be followers of Christ, are not true believers at all in the truth of Gods word. They may appear to be normal and well learned in the wisdom of God, but they teach that the return of a savior, who is Christ, will never possible.

2 Peter 3: 4,....where is the promise of his coming?

This deceptive mockery comes from those who claim to know Gods plan better than he himself. This is because mankind has willingly become high minded and filled with skepticism when it comes to the many signs and wonders that God has performed and will continue to perform throughout time.

Deuteronomy 13: 1 – 5,....if there arise among you....a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or wonder....and....come to pass....saying let us go after other Gods....and let us serve them....thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet....

The word of God gives unto us warnings concerning those who pretend to be prophets and messengers of God. People who claim to have dreams and visions that reveal the will of God, but in fact they are encouraging believers to worship in ways that is distracting to the truth of Gods word. These warnings, which are often times tests of our faith are meant to protect us from being deceived, and to help us to define the true meaning of what it takes to truly follow after God.

2 Peter 3: 8 -10,....beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day....the Lord is not slack concerning his promise....but is longsuffering....not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance....but t he day of the Lord shall come as a thief in the night....the heavens shall pas away....the elements shall melt with fervent heat....the earth and the works....shall be burned up....

Now, God does not count time as we do, for he is eternal. Therefore, he is not limited by the perception of passing days. Time does not hold God, he does not wait, nor does he rush, and what seems like poor timing to us, he has a plan and a purpose that is only known unto him. There will always be many who will not believe that the Lord will ever return, because of the time which has passed by, therefore, despite the truth of Gods word, mankind deliberately denies God, choosing to find their own means of escaping to a new and better life. If God delays, it is because there is a reason, which has everything to do with his love and compassion for all of humanity to be saved, for God is longsuffering and patient toward all of mankind.

1 Timothy 2: 4,....for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our savior....who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth....

It is Gods desire that all of mankind will come to have faith in him, and it is through his word that he presents unto all of humanity the reasons in which to believe that he chooses us for salvation, and then he offers unto us the choice to be saved. Therefore, during our time on this earth, we all desire to know what it is that we are going to face in our life, and this can only come through a personal relationship with God, which includes the idea of understanding who God is, and what he is all about.

2 Peter 3: 11 – 15,....what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness....looking for....the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat....we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness....seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found....in peace, without spot, and blameless....and account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation....

As believers, who are inspired to live for Christ, we should be busy doing his work as we eagerly anticipate his return, for we know that our time here on this earth is temporary, and that one day we will have to stand before God in judgement, and it is that which should encourage us to conduct ourselves in a holy and godly manner. God in his mercy and in his grace has promised unto all who will believe, a new heaven and a new earth, and since a heavenly home is our goal, we must exercise our faith diligently, so that we might reach our objective. As believers, we are assured of eternal righteousness, therefore, our sights should not be set upon our current circumstances, but on Gods ultimate promise of an eternal life with him. Such future hope motivates us as believers to conduct ourselves in spiritual diligence, reminding us that our present actions is an anticipation of our future hope.

Revelation 21: 1 – 7,....and I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away....and I John saw the holy city new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven....and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God....and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes....no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither....any more pain, for the former things are passed away....he that sat upon the throne said, behold I make all things new....it is done, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end....I will give unto him....the fountain of the water of life freely....he that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my Son....

As believers, we must not view what seems to us as a delay of Christ coming as evidence that God is unfaithful and has broken his promises unto all of humanity, for such delay is motivated only by God's grace and mercy towards mankind. What we think to be a delay is actually an expression of Gods desire to bring salvation to as many people as possible. Therefore, as believers, we are to be diligent to guard our heart against false teachings, and to keep our mind focused upon Christ, knowing that the time that we have left is short.

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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