

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Teaching Ministry

7.27.2025

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. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Hearing But We Hear Not

## Matthew 13: 9 – 17

Whether intentionally, or due to the lack of understanding, often time, the value of the truth of God's word is lost because of how that we pursue after spiritual wisdom and knowledge. This happens when we find ourselves skipping over passages of scripture that we do not particularly feel is important to our life. We must come to remember that what God is trying to show us through his word has nothing to do with what we feel is right or wrong for us in our life, but it has everything to do with how he would have us to build a strong relationship with him. Every time that we open Gods word it is an opportunity to enter into a conversation with him, for it is through the work of his spirit that he enables us to hear and to understand what it is that he has to say. No matter what is going on in our life, we can go to Gods word and learn about him, and ourselves. God's word will reveal unto us the truth of our nature, for only he knows what is in our hearts, and in our minds, the thoughts and intentions that make up our eternal existence. At first glance this might seem intimidating, but remember, God is just trying to reveal unto us the great lengths that he will go to, by his mercy and his grace, to draw us into a deeper relationship with him, and to offer unto us the eternal hope of our salvation.

**John 8: 31 – 32,....**then said Jesus to those....which believed in him, if ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples....and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free....

There are many who have truly believed in Christ as their savior, there are many who have trusted in him as their redeemer, and there are many who have placed their faith in Christ for their salvation, but they have not all chosen to abide in the truth of his word, and as a result many will become entangled in various religions that distort the truth of God's word, because of a lack of understanding from God. When we become obedient to the word of God we will grow in spiritual wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, so that we may learn, and as we learn, the spirit of God will give unto us the willingness to continue to learn, and to grow in his grace. Knowing Christ means knowing the truth, because Christ is the truth, and he has given unto us an understanding so that we might proclaim that truth to the world around us.

**Matthew 13: 9 – 13,....**who hath ears to hear, let him hear....the disciples....said unto him, why speakest thou....in parables....because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given....for whosoever hath, to him shall be given....but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away....therefore speak I....in parables, because they seeing see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand....

There will be many that will portray an interest in the gospel of Jesus Christ, but it will be a false portrayal, intended to deceive those who have a genuine interest in Christ, and it is for this reason that Christ often time spoke in parables, not because he does not want mankind to understand the truth and believe, but because he does not want man to take that understanding of the truth, and twist it into worldly sinful desires to be used for personal wealth and gain.

Therefore, God speaks unto us through his word, which is a living word, which is Christ himself, and when he speaks, he expects us to listen, and listening can only come by our faith and trust in him.

**Romans 10: 17,....**so then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God....

Justification, or salvation comes through the redeeming blood of Christ, which cleanses all mankind from sin, but it does not come without faith, and faith comes through obedience to the word of God. This is faith that leads to eternal salvation, which comes after we have received the message of how that Christ was crucified to pay our sin debt. Therefore, in order to have faith in something or someone, we must first be aware of their existence.

When mankind begins to call evil good, and then regard that evil as good, it hardens the heart of man toward the word of God. Therefore, God will not give understanding of his word, so that his word cannot be used to further worldly unbelief and then spread that unbelief to the world around us, for it is unbelief that is the one sin that God cannot forgive.

**John 3: 18,....**he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God....

God gives warning to everyone through his word, warnings of the horrific consequences of rejecting the gospel of his saving grace. God knew from the beginning that man was going to rebel against him, and separate ourselves from him, into a fallen state of sin. For this reason, the plan of salvation was formed, so that the world might be saved from its self-righteous choice of unbelief, because God cannot forgive mankind of his continued unbelief unto death.

**Mark 3: 29,....**he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation....

This means rejecting the convicting power of the Holy Spirit unto salvation until the time that God sees fit to remove us from this earth.

**Isaiah 6: 8 – 9,....**I heard the voice of the Lord saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, here I am, send me....and he said, Go....hear ye indeed, but understand not, and see ye indeed, but perceive not....

There will be those, that the more they hear the gospel of God, the more hardened their heart becomes. For those people, who continually reject Christ, they will suffer the consequences of Gods wrath. But for those who hear the truth of God's word, to those will come the understanding, that there is no value in hearing unless it is accompanied by faith. Spiritual truth can only come to those who are indwelt with the Holy Spirit, and we should never take for granted Gods divine blessing of spiritual understanding.

Now, in this world that we live in there are many that will only show superficial interest in Christ, and this is due to selfish motives and self-righteous desires. Mankind alone is responsible for their own actions of refusing to understand the obvious knowledge of Christ plan of salvation, therefore, as a result of this continued rejection, God has taken action to keep many from understanding his knowledge.

**Proverbs 29: 1,....**he that being often reproveth hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy....

Sinfulness, when by choice it is allowed to do so, it will destroy all that it becomes a part of.

**Romans 6: 23,....**for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord....

Following the path of worldly sinfulness can only lead to death and destruction, while following after Gods mercy and grace will lead to life eternal.

This is a quote that was written: Sin will always take you farther than you want to go, keep you there longer than you wanted to stay, and cost you more than you intended to pay, and that is because it can cost us eternal life.

So, the purpose of hearing is to teach us about spiritual truth. So, this means that there are those that are spiritually hungry, which have the willingness and desire to grow in faith, and to spiritually mature in the Lord, and then there are those whose only interest is to use the knowledge of God's word for their own self-righteous benefits and desires, without ever learning the spiritual truths of Gods saving grace. We either come to the Lord with ears to hear the truth of God's word, or we come and hear, but we tune out the truth. The truth of God's word will one day apply to everyone, without exception, and we would do well to hear, believe, and learn from it before it is eternally too late.

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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