

Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church

Sunday School Lesson

1.4.2026

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 what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Jesus Cleanses Gods House

John 2: 13 - 17

Our studies over the past few weeks have been directed toward God and his infinite wisdom and power, and the believer's ability to experience that power with an intense consuming passion in glorify him. Now, even through worldly criticism, suffering, and pain, we should maintain a sincerity for Gods glory, not only in our lives, but also within the body of Christ. Therefore, as believers, our life is not just about our personal comfort, which, by the way, if we allow, it will consume us, but it is all about the seriousness of our devotion unto God. It is about our burning desire to protect the temple that is within us, so that we might fulfill the ultimate plan of expressing unto others the goodness of the saving grace of Christ Jesus. Therefore, we live a purpose driven life in him, growing spiritually, stepping out in faith and doing the work that he has prepared for us to do, a work that brings glory unto God. Our journey in this life is one of surrendering ourselves wholly and completely unto his will, trusting that he will transform our lives from an earthly image into the likeness of his Son, Christ Jesus. We are his workmanship; therefore, our potential is not about worldly success, but it is to be a blessing by living in obedience to the teachings and instructions of his word. This means that as believers, our life is all about Gods purpose.

1 Corinthians 10: 31,.... whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God....

Every aspect of our life in Christ is to be done with the ultimate goal of bringing glory and honor unto God. We are called to live a life where every choice that we make transforms the ordinary into something extraordinary that points others unto God. Living our life in this manner is a powerful witness that shows Gods goodness and grace to the world, reminding believers that every moment of our life offers an opportunity to glorify God.

John 2: 13 – 14,....the Jews Passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem....and found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting....

Christ, from the beginning of time has always been aware of his purpose in bringing about the kingdom of God. The revelation of his divine identity and his purpose as the Son of God is the ultimate fulfillment of Gods glory in his temple. Even at a young age when he was found in the temple, he asks his mother the question: wist ye not that I must be about my Fathers business. This was in itself a total adoration of Gods work and his unique relationship with him as the Son of God. The physical temple in Jerusalem was merely a shadow of the spiritual, a place where God temporarily dwelt among humanity.

John 2: 19,....Jesus....said....destroy the temple, and in three days I will raise it up....

Christ himself is the true temple; he is the perfect union between humanity and that which is divine. He is the focal point of Gods redemptive plan, and he is the access point to Gods divine presence. Now, today this example extends to the believer through our spiritual union with Christ Jesus, and our own bodies have now become the dwelling place of Christ.

So, what does Christ find when he looks in our temple. As believers, Christ finds his dwelling place in our spiritual temple, which was a place in desperate need of cleansing from sin, but now is the place where the Holy Spirit lives. Therefore, it is a foundation built upon the truth of his word, representing his light unto the world, a light that points to his work and to the promise of his eternal presence. But what does he find when we allow sin to defile the temple. He finds that our intimacy with God is disrupted, which weakens our spiritual life with him. Now, even though the Holy Spirit remains, this separation will lead to a spiritual emptiness that can only be overcome through repentance as we rely upon the Holy Spirit to rebuild us in our sacred dwelling place with God.

John 2: 15 – 16,....when he had made a scourge....he drove them out of the temple....and said unto them....take these things hence, make not my Fathers house an house of merchandise....

Sin in our life as believers creates a barrier, it disrupts our relationship with God, and it weakens our spiritual life in Christ. Therefore, Christ must cleanse the temple, and he does so through the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and he shows unto us how to become once again obedient, choosing the promises and commandments of God's word over the worldly passions and lustful desires in our life. God's word warns us, as believers, not to love the sinful desires of the world, for this worldly love is incompatible with the love of the Father. We are called to choose to live according to the hope of our eternal life with God over the attractions of worldly pleasures, for living in our worldly pleasures contradicts our love for God.

Matthew 6: 24,....no man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other, or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mamon....

Loyalty is exclusive, for favoring one means a divided focus and devotion to the other. As believers, we are commanded to prioritize God above all else in our life, for a divided heart that is caught between serving God and serving the lustful desires of the world leads to an unsustainable relationship with God.

Now, it is important to understand that Christ's actions, did not sustain within his being any worldly emotions. His actions manifested his righteousness, showing not only his power, but also his opposition to sinful corruption. Christ was reclaiming the dwelling place of the Father, showing unto us as believers the need for spiritual purity, which often time must come through the wrath and judgement of God, but it always points unto Christ, ensuring that we remain focused upon him.

John 2: 17,....and his disciples remembered that it was written, the zeal of the house hath eaten us up....

Psalm 69: 9,....the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up, and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me....

As believers, by example, through the word of God, we are reminded that as we begin to experience a deep, passionate, unwavering, commitment in our service unto him, it is going to lead to personal suffering, which is directed toward us from those who oppose the goodness of God. Now, even though these actions may feel like personal attacks, we must choose to only allow it to prompt within us a spiritually motivated passionate response, a profound expression of our faith, for suffering for the glory of God is an expression of our faith and not a sign of wrongdoing. Our spiritual passion for God gives unto us endurance, with the willingness to bear the shame, and dismiss the vengeful desires of worldly emotions.

Proverbs 16: 3,....commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established....

By surrendering our efforts and intentions unto God, by seeing his guidance, and by aligning our desires with his will, we will experience in our life his spiritual stability and purpose in a way that reflects the divine wisdom and glory of God. Trusting that God will work through our actions, bringing them unto perfection in his perfect timing, even among the challenges and sufferings in our life, will bring peace, and purpose, and understanding, all the while going through the cleansing process of God house.

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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