

Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church

Sunday School Lesson

3.8.2026

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.

The Way of the Lord is Just

Ezekiel 33: 12 - 20

Gods goal for all of mankind is to correct, to purify, and to train us up in his righteousness, which will allow us to share in his holiness. To do this, he uses discipline to redirect our lives away from the harmful pathway of sin and transform us into the likeness of Christ. Now, discipline acts as a device to bring us into a closer relationship with him, where there is no condemnation, only loving correction, so that we might learn from our mistakes, and repent. Humanity struggles to see Gods divine purpose, for we tend to focus on actions that are immediate, rather than the long-term benefits intended for us by a loving heavenly Father. Now, Gods way is considered just, and perfect, achieving peace and purpose, providing a reliable standard for our life. Following him requires trusting only and ever in him, knowing that our obedience comes with the promise of hope to a greater end. So, while the way of the world may seem right, it is Gods divine and just principles that ensure his righteous outcome within us.

Isaiah 55: 8 – 9,....for my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord....for as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts....

There is a gap that is without end between worldly understanding and the divine wisdom of God, wisdom that points us toward his incomprehensible plan, a plan that is not only superior to mans understanding, but it is perfectly holy, encouraging us to abandon our limited, self-centered ways. It is Gods wisdom that points the sinner in the right direction so that we might see the need to turn from the wickedness of the world and turn toward the grace of God. Therefore, we must turn our thoughts and our mindset away from the world to an eternal, holy perspective.

Ezekiel 33: 12,....son of man, say....the righteousness shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression....

Good deeds done, cannot justify, or save the one who willingly sins. Previous repentance or obedience does not justify payment for current sins. If a person trust in their own past goodness when falling into the vanity of sin, those former works will not save, for God judges each one based upon his or her current actions.

Ezekiel 33: 12,....as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness....

God offers immediate forgiveness to anyone who genuinely repents and turns from their sinful ways and lives righteously. Past sins do not seal a person's fate, for salvation is based upon our current repentance, not previous behaviors. Therefore, through repentance, past transgressions are no longer remembered or counted against us.

Ezekiel 33: 12,....neither shall the righteous be able to live for his righteousness in the day that he sinneth....

A righteous person, who turns to the sinful, lustful desires of the world, will not be saved or forgiven on the basis of past good deeds, for there is a necessity to take the responsibility to continue living in righteousness without following after worldly, lustful desires.

Ezekiel 33: 13,....when I shall say to the righteous, that he shall surely live, if he trust to his own righteousness, and commit iniquity, all his righteousness shall not be remembered, but for his iniquity that he hath committed, he shall die for it....

Living in our salvation is dependent upon our ongoing relationship with God, and not by trusting in our past good deeds, especially when we sin, for sin hinders our relationship with God, which leads to spiritual death. Therefore, obedience to Gods word, and daily repentance is required, so that we might maintain a sustained faithfulness in our life in Christ.

Ezekiel 33: 14 – 15,....again, when I say unto the wicked, thou shalt surely die, if he turn from his sin, and do that which is lawful and right, if the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he has robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing in iniquity, he shall surely live, he shall not die....

True repentance results in eternal life, for it shows Gods desire for mankind’s redemption instead of eternal punishment. This confirms that our past sins, if we faithfully believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ, will not condemn us to an eternal separation from God. Therefore, the warnings given to us through the promises and commandments of his word are not meant for punishment, but as an invitation to repent. This is an individual responsibility where we must choose to accept his mercy and his grace, that which he provides unto those who turn to him. Now, true repentance requires actionable change, by walking in obedience to his word. Every person is accountable for their own current state of being, a previous life of good works will not save us if we are living in sin, nor will a wicked past keep us from receiving Gods saving grace, our life is based upon whether we choose to remain in our sinfulness or in a renewed life of obedience in Christ.

Ezekiel 33: 16 – 20,....none of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned....he hath done that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live....yet....thy people say, the way of the Lord is not equal, but as for them, their way is not equal....when the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall....die thereby....but if the wicked turn from his wickedness....he shall live thereby....yet ye say, the way of the Lord is not equal....O ye house of Israel, I will judge you every one after his way....

Do we often time feel that Gods ways are unfair. Suffering in our life can sometimes feel unjust because we only see the immediate, temporary situation that we are in, and not the divine perspective of Gods long term purpose. Now, while this worldly emotional feeling of unfairness often challenges our trust and faith in God, he is sovereign, and just, and does not operate on human standards of fairness, but he is faithful and offers mercy and grace without human merit.

Psalms 25: 8 – 9,....good and upright is the Lord, therefore will he teach sinners in the way....the meek will he guide in judgement, and the meek will he teach his ways....

Gods' judgement toward mankind is based upon each one's individual's actions and repentance, rather than on accumulated guilt, because it is by our own choices that our spiritual standing with him is determined. Each one is judged based upon the choices that are made, for he evaluates us by our actions, our motives, our thoughts, and our intentions. Therefore, we are called to turn away from our sinful ways and choose to live a new life in Christ. God sees everything, and his judgement is true, for he calls each individual to take responsibility for their own spiritual wellbeing and then judges accordingly. Even though, as humans we fall short, Gods mercy, his grace, and his desire to teach us the correct pathway will prevail when we choose to allow his redemption to be fulfilled within us by his saving grace.

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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