

Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church

Sunday School Lesson

7.12.2026

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.

God Sends a Righteous Branch

Jeremiah 23: 1 - 8

The entirety of the word of God explains that humanity cannot achieve righteousness on their own, so Christ became our righteousness, for he is the only one who can bridge the gap between man's perfection and God's perfect holiness. So, God credits Christ's perfect righteousness unto all those who will by faith, believe upon his name, allowing us to stand before him as being holy, forgiven, and accepted. So, instead of striving to be good enough to earn God's favor, we rest in the truth that his righteousness is a divine provision, given unto us as a free gift. This reflects the security of our salvation, which we find in our relationship with God, in our anticipation of the hope of eternal life with him, that he shares with those who trust in him.

2 Corinthians 5: 21,....for he hath made him to be sin for us....that we might be made the righteousness of God in him....

So, let us first understand that this is a credited righteousness, which means that we will make mistakes, for we are not flawless. Christ took upon himself our debt of sin but never became a sinner, and he accredited unto us his perfect characteristic, so that when God looks at us as believers, he sees the perfection of his Son, Christ Jesus. So, this means that the barrier of sin has been completely removed, allowing for our total reconciliation with him. Therefore, we are no longer guilty or condemned, but we are fully accepted and adopted, given a right standing before God. Now that the holy Spirit has begun to work in our life, we are empowered to live out this righteousness that we have been freely given. This new life is our present and future growing reality.

Philippians 3: 9,....and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith....

Now, mine own righteousness would be a perfect religious resume, if it looks to be fulfilling the promises and commandments of God's word, because by this we measure our spiritual worth. But when in fact, the reality is that it is just worldly perfection and good works following after religious traditions and is entirely insufficient to pay our sin debt or even find favor with God. So, we must place our faith in Christ, perfect, sinless nature, that assures us that we are completely forgiven and accepted by God, not because of what we have done, but because of what Christ has done for us.

Jeremiah 23: 1 – 2,....woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture....thus saith the Lord....against the pastors that feed my people, ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them....I will visit upon you the evil of your doings....

There is an accountability for those who mislead people through unfaithful, spiritual deception. These are those who lead others away from the truth of Gods word, into false teachings, that result in worldly, immoral actions. Therefore, God will hold these religious leaders responsible for the spiritual wellbeing of those whom they have care over, even though the choice was their own to follow therein. So, by leading people away from the truth of God's word, and failing to protect them with righteous teachings, we are leading others to become spiritually lost. Therefore, because man fails, God steps in with righteous judgement and condemnation, and a promise to bring his people back into his righteousness.

2 Peter 2: 8 – 9,....that righteous man....in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul....with their unlawful deeds....the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgement to be punished....

Ungodly behavior can, by deception, distress a righteous person's soul. So, when our life is aligned in Gods ways, but we allow ourselves to become spiritually, emotionally battered, by constantly listening, while hearing about the worldly deeds around us, it can and will exhaust us and wear down our spiritually, sensitive soul. Now, often time, because of the choices that we have made, God will allow us to endure spiritual discomfort, but through the convicting power of the Holy Spirit he knows how to rescue us from destruction. Therefore, as believers, we will feel a sense of righteousness over sinfulness, rather than becoming unaware of it, but God he will hold those who deliberately taught this false deception accountable for their evil doings.

Jeremiah 23: 3 – 4,....I will gather the remnant of my flock....and bring them again to their folds, and they shall be fruitful and increase....I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them....they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord....

From since before the foundation of the world as we know it, Gods plan was always to step in and provide a way to repair the damage caused by mans transgressions. This he achieved, through his redemptive power, by giving humanity an ultimate shepherd, who brought the healing of salvation and spiritual growth to all who will believe by faith, no matter how far someone has strayed. God promises to gather the faithful from all the darkest places that we have been scattered, through our temptations and turn that into spiritual recovery. God promises to lead his people through various ways, back to a place where we will no longer be fearful. This points to spiritual growth and prosperity under his guidance, through those who are willing to fulfill his promises to his people.

Jeremiah 23: 5 – 8,....the days come....that I will raise unto David a righteous branch....a king....and shall execute judgement and justice in tyheearth....in his days Judah shall be saved, and....dwell safely....his name....shall be called....the Lord our righteousness....the days come....they shall no more say, the Lord liveth, which brought up the children....out of....Egypt....but, the Lord liveth....which led the seed....out....from all countries whither I had driven them, and they shall dwell in their own land....

The future kingdom of Christ will be governed by perfect grace and truth, bringing an end to the spiritual confusion caused by sin. So, we understand that man cannot achieve righteousness on his own, so Christ became the one who would provide the righteousness that we need, in order to stand before a holy God. He has become for us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, that corrects our flawed, worldly perspective, giving unto us an ongoing, lifelong process of being made holy and separated from sin. Therefore, we can experience the ultimate rescue from the penalty of sin, accomplished through the blood of Christ, bringing us into an ongoing spiritual growth, showing unto others the day of salvation.

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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