

Mt. Lebanon Church

Teaching Ministry

8.2.2026

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. 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.

Victory Promised

Joshua 6: 2 – 4, 12 – 17

There are times in our life in Christ when we question the commandments and promises of God, and very time that we ignore the truth of God's word, we are disobedient to his promises, so, therefore we ask the question: why should we listen to God. Now, willingly seeking after the promises and commandments of God proves our love for Christ, and shows our faith and belief in the work that Christ has done on our behalf on the cross. And even though in order to become a believer it requires obedience, we also must understand what it is that we are to obey, and why we must obey it. Christ gave unto us his love freely, and once we accepted it, he wants us to remain in it, and our obedience to his word is how that we remain in the love of Christ.

John 15: 9 – 10,....as the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you, continue ye in my love, even as I have kept my Fathers commandments, and abide in his love....

So, what is the significance of following after the commandments of God. When we are obedient to the commandments of God, we will discover that his love for us is stronger than life, and it is more powerful than death. As we remain connected to him, we draw from his wisdom and strength, and his power and his grace, which helps us to overcome our worldly fears, so that we might discover the benefits of following after his purpose and plan in our life. Nothing excites our life in Christ more readily than experiencing the knowledge that we are so deeply loved by God himself, through Christ Jesus our Lord, and we know that every promise, every command, every predetermined action exists, so that his joy might remain in us, and that our joy might remain full.

John 15: 11,....these things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full....

So, Gods desire is not to restrict our lives, but to give unto us abundant life. For this reason, he shows unto us through his word, what it means to follow the Fathers will, even when situations and circumstances in our life might seem unbearable. Ultimately, obedience on our part not only leads to Gods glory but it also brings into our life the blessings of his eternal perspective and value.

Remember, Christ experienced the same temptations of disobedience that we now experience, and was yet without sin, because he knew that the Fathers plan for his life was not only for his own glory, but was also for the glory of the Father, and for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Hebrews 4: 14 – 15,....seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession....for we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin....

Now, obedience to Gods word might bring temporary hatred from the world, but it is all a part of his plan to redeem humanity from their sin. So, as we are tempted, and often time because of that temptation we sin, Christ teaches us that we can be tempted in every way and still remain sinless. Experiencing temptation is not a sin, and through prayer, study, meditation, and obedience to the word of God, we will understand and recognize the difference between temptation and pursuing the actions of our temptations. No matter what kind of deception that we may be experiencing, God will give unto us a way to respond to it without violating his will for our life.

1 Corinthians 10: 13,....there hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it....

So, let us as believers, never assume, that our salvation will give unto us immunity from the consequences of our actions of sin, because it is these consequences that serve as a warning unto us, that we should not be careless in our life in Christ. Temptation, and deception, will always be a routine part of our life, and our worldly desire to follow after these temptations may often time feel greater than our desire to do what is right in the eyes of God. But God gives unto us his word of assurance that he is never waiting for us to fail, but he is always waiting and willing to help us, by actively working in our lives to keep us from ever being tempted beyond that which we can resist. God promises unto us through his word, that by the power of his Holy Spirit, we can respond to any given temptation by resisting it. Therefore, by doing what is right and pleasing unto God, and following after his promises and commandments in our life, we might be successful in his eternal hope, within the body of Christ.

Joshua 6: 2 – 4, 12 – 17,....the Lord said unto Joshua....I have given into thine hand Jericho....ye shall compass the city....once....this shalt thou do six days....the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times....Joshua rose up early in the morning....took the ark of the Lord....the second day they compassed the city once....so they did six days....the seventh day....they....compassed the city....seven times....at the seventh time....Joshua said....shout, for the Lord hath given unto you the city....the city shall be accursed....only Rahab....shall live....because she hid the messengers....

So, God reveals unto mankind that he is faithful and trustworthy, and therefore, we should always do the same in return for him. But in order to do the same, we must understand his faithfulness. Now, faithfulness is the act of being true to your promises, which is our ability, to follow through on our commitment of dedication unto the Lord. Often time, we mistakenly compare Gods faithfulness to our own self-righteous faithfulness, but his faithfulness never fails, for his faithfulness goes far beyond any success we could ever have on our own.

Lamentations 3: 22 – 23,....it is of the Lords mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not....they are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness....

Now, often time unbelief will cause us to look at the circumstances in our life as overwhelming and hopeless. But a life of faith is founded on Christ Jesus, who is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. His steadfast love for mankind never ceases and his mercies will never end. And even though, as believers, we still sin, and we grieve the Holy Spirit, His forgiveness is always available. Remember, if God is for us, who can be against us.

Romans 8: 29 – 32,....for whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren....moreover whom he did predestinate, them also he called, and whom he called, them also he justified, and whom also he justified, them he also glorified....what shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?....He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give all things?....

Gods plan and purpose does not change. Therefore, it was his intent, even before the foundation of the world as we know it, to give unto mankind, grace, and mercy, so that our faith in Christ might become complete. Christ does not change, and neither does the gospel of his saving grace. God does not change, and neither does the truth of his word. The gospel of his grace is timeless, it is changeless, it is eternal, and it inspires us to trust in its truth. So, what is the truth?

John 1: 14,....and the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth....

Gods work, when done his way, will always be victorious. He gives unto us his promises, and he also gives unto us detailed instructions of the procedures that we need to carry out these promises and commandments in our life. Now, put yourself in the same position as the children of Israel. We also have these walls that we have built up within us, which have stopped us from moving forward in our life in Christ, but through the Holy Spirit, which indwells within us, we are assured of our faith, and of our trust in Christ, and by his strength, and through our obedience these walls of separation between us and God begins to crumble, and we begin to see the glory of the Lord at work in our lives, and just like the children of Israel, we will begin to experience his promised victory in our lives, a victory that is full of grace and of the truth of our salvation. This is what our life here on earth is all about.

Let us Pray.

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