

Bible Study - Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 26

Pastor Charles A. Hall – December 14th, 2023

Foundational scriptures for our theme:

- **2 Corinthians 6:17** WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU.
- **1 John 2:15-17** Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

To Live for God, We Can Not Maintain An On and Off Relationship

If our desire is to truly live our life for God, we cannot treat our relationship with Him in the same way we treat some of our earthly relationships. In the world we sometimes turn off or put on hold relationships with our acquaintances, friends and even family members because of situations, circumstances or events that might have occurred or not occurred. A personal intimate relationship with God is based on true love, which is constant and continuous, and is not contingent upon situations or circumstances. The bible describes this type of love that God has for us and the reciprocal love that we should have toward Him as “agape love.” This is the highest form of love, and this love supersedes any other form of love such as “eros love” which is an erotic love, or “philia love” which is a brotherly love. Agape love is the type of Love that John wrote about in the gospel of John chapter 3 verse sixteen where it speaks of God the Father’s love for humanity which was so great that He sent His only Son to die in our place, so that we might have everlasting life. This is why we cannot allow our relationship with God to be based on earthly events, rather than true love, if we do, our relationship becomes unstable. The word of God encourages all believers to trust God without ever doubting Him or His abilities, the bible also encourage believers to establish and maintain a personal relationship with God as well. Since God is our divine father then the only thing that can keep us from having a personal relationship with Him is sin. As a result of Jesus Christ’s sacrificial death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, which released humanity from the bondage and penalty of Sin, we have no excuse for not having a personal relationship with God. Since God is righteous and pure, He cannot have a personal and intimate relationship with any part of humanity which is evil or disobedient. God never changes, He is the same today, tomorrow, and any time thereafter. So, to have a personal relationship with God we must draw near to Him, and as we draw closer to Him, He will draw closer to us. God who is righteous will not establish a relationship with someone who is unrighteous, and since none of humanity is righteous, we must be made righteous before our relationship with Him is reconciled. The only way that we can be made righteous is through the blood of Jesus Christ.

- **John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- **Romans 5:8** But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Bible Study - Living for God, Not the World – Continued – Lesson - 26

Pastor Charles A. Hall – December 14th, 2023

- **1 John 4:19** We love him, because he first loved us.
- **Romans 8:38-39** (38) For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, (39) Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- **Mark 12:29-30** (29) And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, HEAR, O ISRAEL; THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD: (30) AND THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIND, AND WITH ALL THY STRENGTH: This is the first commandment.
- **James 4:8** Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded.
- **Romans 3:10-12** (10) As it is written, THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT ONE: (11) THERE IS NONE THAT UNDERSTANDETH, THERE IS NONE THAT SEEKETH AFTER GOD. (12) THEY AR ALL GONE OUT OF THE WAY, THEY ARE TOGETHER BECOME UNPROFITABLE; THERE IS NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, NO, NOT ONE.
- **Romans 4:3-5** (3) For what saith the scripture? ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT AS COUNTED UNTO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS. (4) Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace but of debt. (5) But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
- **Hebrews 7:19** For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

Our relationship with God should never be based on God's will, being in alignment with our desires, but rather trusting God and allowing His will to supersede our selfish earthly desires and wants. Jesus set the standard for accepting the will of the Father, above His own desires throughout His earthly ministry. Prior to going to the cross to take on the sins of the world, Jesus as both human and God at the same time struggled with his mission. His struggle was so intense that He prayed to the Father to lift His burden from Him. However, Jesus also stated in His prayer to the Father that if going to the cross is the will of the Father than let it be done. Jesus' human desires did not align itself with the will of the Father. Nevertheless, Jesus Human desire did not supersede the will of the Father, nor did Jesus' desire impede His intimate relationship with the Father. They continued to be one.

- **Luke 22:39-42** (39) And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. (40) And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. (41) And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, (42) Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done.