

Obedience and Blessing

"He who has an ear..."

One step forward in obedience is worth years of studying it.

Obedience to God has always been an issue for man. Rom 5:19

For as through the one man's **disobedience** the many were made sinners, even so through the **obedience** of the One the many will be made righteous.

Noah obeyed the Lord. Heb 11:6-7

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

A wrong application of Eternal Security is wanton disobedience. Rom 6:1

The Lord is looking for people who will completely obey Him. Deut 6:5

1. **Four Steps of Obedience.**

- A. **Listen: Submission (HUPAKOE = a listening under authority)**
- B. **Understand: Training**
- C. **Comply: Respect and Duty
(HUPOTAG8 = arranging self under) authority
Delayed obedience is disobedience.**
- D. **Keep: Complete and Continue**

2. **Obedience will result in blessing or undeserved suffering that leads to blessing. Rom 8:28 (Is Spiritual blessing #1?)**

- **The most fitting response to undeserved blessing is unreserved obedience.**

3. **Four Elements of True Obedience. Gen 26:4-5 (includes all the following)**

I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; 5 because Abraham **obeyed** Me and kept My charge (**MISHMERET = 1st of 78x that which is valued**), My commandments (**MITZWAH = 1st of 181x; emphasis on the authority**), My statutes (**CHOQ = 1st of 105x; emphasis on specific actions to take**) and My laws (**TORAH = 1st of 219x; emphasis on attitude**)."

- A. **Recognizes the value (so not just done from fear)**
- B. **Orients to the authority (so not done from self-will)**
- C. **Lives the command (not just lip-service)**

D. Embraces the attitude (not just duty)

- **“Thy Will be done” expresses not one of resignation but of soaring aspiration and joyful dedication to a high adventure.**

4. Abraham models the blessing that comes from obeying the Lord.

A. Abraham’s obedience began with a change of geography.

Heb 11:8-10

By faith Abraham, when he was called, **obeyed** by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; 10 for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

B. It culminated with a great application of faith. Gen 22:15-18

Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, 16 and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18 "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have **obeyed** My voice." **Heb 11:13-19** All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. 15 And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them. 17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; 18 it was he to whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED." 19 He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.

C. As a result of Abraham’s obedience, Abraham’s “Promised Seed” shall descend through the line of Judah and to this “Seed” shall be the obedience of all people. Gen 49:10

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him shall be the **obedience** of the peoples.

5. True Obedience to God is the marker of our love for Him. Deut 11:1

"You shall therefore love the Lord your God, and always keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments. **John 14:15** If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. **John 14:21-24** He who has My commandments and **keeps** them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him." 22

Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?" 23 Jesus answered and said to him, " If anyone loves Me, he will **keep** My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. 24 "He who does not love Me does not **keep** My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

A. Obedience must be learned. Heb 5:8

Although He was a Son, He learned **obedience** from the things which He suffered.

He is wise who learns to obey when others go astray.

B. Some just pretend to obey God. Psalms 81:15

Those who hate the Lord would pretend **obedience** to Him, And their time of punishment would be forever.

C. Obedience to God results in righteousness. Romans 6:16

Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of **obedience** resulting in righteousness?

D. Total Obedience to God should be our ambition in the midst of the angelic conflict. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, 4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the **obedience** of Christ,

6. Obedience to God's truth leads to purification of the soul so that we may love one another. 1 Peter 1:22-23

Since you have in **obedience** to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, 23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

- **The Christian who claims the promises of God should obey the commands of God.**

7. The first application is to our earthly relationships. 1 Peter 3:5-6

For in this way in former times the holy women also, who hoped in God, used to adorn themselves, being submissive to their own husbands; 6 just as Sarah **obeyed** Abraham, calling him lord, and you have become her children if you do what is right without being frightened by any fear. **Cf Genesis 18:1-15; Ephesians 5:25-27** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

8. As bondservants of Christ Jesus we are to use the grace given to us to lead others to obedience to Him. Rom 1:1-5

Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the **obedience** of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake,