

The entire redemptive work of Christ consists of restoring man back into obedience, reversing Adam's disobedience that affected all mankind, **Romans 5:19**. Without being in obedience, we can never have true fellowship with God.

Salvation is a free gift, and most of us first opt for just that gift, providing access into God's heaven. However, if we wish to walk in the light, as He is in the light, and be in fellowship one with another, **1st John 1:7**, we must learn obedience.

Obedience only comes to us as we start walking in the light with Him; as long as we choose to stay walking in the dark ways of the world, we'll remain in our disobedience.

Can two walk together, except they be agreed? **Amos 3:5**.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service, **Romans 12:1**.

That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou has sent Me, **John 17:21**.

As Jesus prayed to the Father, that we would be one in the Godhead, as He is in the Father, and the Father is in Him. Whether you take this scripture literally or figuratively, we must be in one accord with the Godhead. This is achievable, for we have the mind of Christ, **1st Corinthians 2:16**.

Therefore, if we are to live and move and have our being within Him, **Acts 17:28**, we must be one in agreement with Him, as Christ is the head of the church, and He is the Savior of the body, **{Ephesians 5:23}**. The body of Christ needs to be submissive to and in agreement with Christ, who is the head, acknowledging His ultimate sacrifice of obedience.

And being found in fashion as a Man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, **Philippians 2:8**.

Now therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth *is* Mine: **Exodus 19:5**.

And Samuel (*the priest & prophet*), said, has the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey *is* better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams, **1st Samuel 15:22**.

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: **Isaiah 1:19**.

Obedience was required in the Old Testament; however, the Old Covenant did not provide mankind with the power to be obedient. Whereby, the New Covenant does, for God has put His spirit in us, writing His laws in our heart and mind.

This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them **Hebrews 10:16**.

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do *them*. **Ezekiel 36:26-27**.

God has given us the empowering grace to achieve this obedience. However, for us to achieve total obedience, we must be in unceasing fellowship with God's Holy Spirit.

Obedience cannot be learned through Bible study, nor is it learned through any outside church activity; it is only acquired through a connection with God's Holy Spirit.

By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for His name: **Romans 1:5**.

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord, **Luke 1:17**.

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. **1st Peter 1:2**.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went, **Hebrews 11:8**.

Obedience also applies to our thought life; we are to take control of our thoughts so that they align with Christ's thoughts.

⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; ⁶ And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled. **2nd Corinthians 10:5-6**.

We should not think of being obedient as something we have to do to be pleasing to God; every gift that the Father gives to us is a good gift. Learning and walking in obedience will keep us in the Father's presence, where we can access His many promises and blessings.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, **James 1:17**.

- - - there is no substitute for obedience - - -
The life of a believer is characterized by one's obedience.



O B E D I E N C E

it's the only way

For as by one man's disobedience (*Adam*), many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one (*Jesus*), shall many be made righteous. **Romans 5:19**.

Though He were a Son (*Jesus*), yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered; **Hebrews 5:8**.

Being a Man, Jesus learned obedience by the things that He suffered. Obedience did not come to Jesus naturally, just as it does not come to us naturally. However, all men must learn obedience if we wish to be right and one with God.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:16.

Obedience is not earning brownie points with God, nor is it optional. Rather, obedience is expected of all servants of God.

⁹ Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. ²⁰ So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do. **Luke 17:9-10**.

When Adam and his wife ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **Genesis 3:6**, this was mankind's first act of disobedience to God. Later, when they heard the voice of the Lord in the garden, they both hid themselves from Him, **Genesis 3:8**. Scripture records that they hid because they were afraid because they were naked, **Genesis 3:8**. Adam and his wife had always been naked, and they had not been ashamed before, **Genesis 2:25**. However, now the first results of their disobedience had been made known to them, and they were now afraid of *what God might do*, **Genesis 3:10**.