

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

12.3.2023

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.

Why Should We Obey God

Acts 5: 29

As we go through life, we soon learn that at some point and time, whether we want to submit to it or not, there must come into our life some form of obedience. We first realized this when we came to know right from wrong, and now, even though we have experienced obedience, we have not yet the wisdom to know why that there is a need for obedience in our life, except that something or someone said that it needed to be this way. Now, as Christians, it is only reasonable to have in mind that we must obey the commandments of God. We know that God loves us and would never mislead us, so therefore we assume that everything in his word will come to pass and bring us blessings no matter if we are not willing to do much for him. What we often feel that is obedience to God we feel so that we might find his favor or earn blessings, this is not obedience at all, it is just being manipulative and selfish, and it is not pleasing unto God. Obeying God means that out of our love for him there is a willing desire to trust wholly and completely in him, while seeking out his wisdom, knowledge and understanding, through meditating upon his word in prayer, all the while being a living example to the world around us, an example of Gods amazing saving grace. The one that loves God seeks nothing more in their life than the one that they love. We must never portray obedience just to avoid what we fear, or to get what we want, we love him because he first loved us.

1 John 4: 19,....we love him, because he first loved us....

It is only because of God's love for us that we are able to love him in return. This can only be accomplished through the Holy Spirit, which indwells within those, who by faith, hath believed upon the Lord Jesus Christ, through their obedience to the word of God. Now as Christians, we are called to continue in our love for God.

Mark 12: 30 – 31,....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....

Do we simply express our love for God out of a required obligation, or maybe even what we feel is our Christian duty or is there truly a deeper level of loving God in our heart, because he loved us first, which can only come through a faithful obedience to God and his word. So, this morning we are going to answer the question, why should we obey God, for there are more believers who claim their love for God but fail to remain obedient in their walk with him.

Acts 5: 29,....then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, we ought to obey God rather than men....

In our life as believers, when faced with the choice of whether to obey God or not, there should be no hesitation on our part to that which we should do. God, who is a sovereign God, and an omnipotent God is the ultimate authority in our lives. Therefore, our moral standard of values and our new spiritual characteristics in Christ must align with the commandments of God's word, as he reveals it unto us through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Now, most think that they should obey God for the blessings and benefits of his mercy and grace, which they seek to receive. But as we grow in faith, and mature spiritually in our life, we come to understand that we should obey God for who he is, for what he has done, for what he does, and for what he is going to do, which has nothing to do with our personal gain or self-will, but has everything to do with his eternal hope for all of mankind.

Joshua 24: 15,....if it seem evil unto you to seek the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve....as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord....

The most important choice in life that anyone will ever make is the choice to obey God. It is obedience to God's word that brings us to faith believing in Christ Jesus, and it is obedience to God's word that challenges us daily to examine ourselves so that we might continue to trust in God and walk in his spirit and in truth. There must be no compromise in our obedience to God, for God will not share his glory with any other gods that we put before him.

Exodus 20: 3,....thou shalt have no other gods before me....

Obedience is designed to encourage mankind to make the right choice and then for them to continue with that choice. Making the choice, and then remaining in that which God has supplied us with, means that we will be victorious in our work in the Lord. Our work in the Lord is based upon that which we have received from the word of God, and whether or not we act upon the work which we received through our obedience.

Isaiah 55: 10 – 11,....for as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not hither, but watereth the earth....so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth, it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereunto I sent it....

God's word always fulfills his purpose and his will, it will always bring forth life, and it will always produce fruit, for it is through obedience to his word that we know how to accept, and to live in its truths. Therefore, we are encouraged to abide in the truth of his word by allowing it to absorb into the very being of our lives so that it may accomplish that which God wants it to accomplish. God's word will always prosper, it will always succeed, and those who are obedient to his word in the end will overcome.

2 Timothy 3: 16 – 17,....all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works....

The written word that we have is a direct revelation from the living God. It enlightens our minds with the truth, and it inspires our hearts with spiritual understanding, and gives godly instruction to all those who have believed, by faith, in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. God told mankind what was going to happen in the end, even before he gave unto us our beginning. This he done as a warning so that we might recognize the consequences of the actions of our life, whether of obedience unto eternal life, or in disobedience unto eternal death. Therefore, obedience to God's word is profitable for salvation, for sanctification, for spiritual growth, for godly understanding, and for eternal glorification.

Hebrews 5: 8 – 9,....though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which hath suffered, and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him....

Christ was our greatest example of why we should obey God. Obedience to God has nothing to do with our own self-righteous desires, or the blessings that we might receive as some may think. So, why do we obey God? God wants us to learn how to resist the many temptations that we will face in our life so that we might become entirely dependent upon him as our provider and as our protector. No one is excluded from obeying God, for even Christ lived his life by obeying Gods every word, and carrying out his will in thought, in word, and in deed. We are obedient to God so that we may live in total dependence upon him, denying one-self, so that we may live by the power of his spirit, and for his glory.

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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