

Obedience Pt 2 The Lord's correction teaches obedience

This is our third teaching on the topic of obedience. In our previous study we covered three points: (I) There was a remnant of Israel that obeyed and feared the LORD, (ii) God sent His only begotten Son that Israel might hear, believe & obey Him, and (iii) the Jewish leaders believed not that Jesus was God's Son, nor obeyed Him. In this study we will cover three points: (i) Christ wrought a work to make the Gentiles obedient by word and deed, (ii) There are those who obey not the gospel of God, and (iii) God gives His Holy Ghost to them that obey Him.

A little more detail on our three points- according to the scriptures-

1. Christ wrought a work to make the Gentiles obedient by word and deed

"For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed" (Rom.15 :18).

The scriptures were given according to the commandment of the everlasting God for the obedience of faith- Rom 16:26-"But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith".

By Adam's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of Christ many shall be made righteous- Rom 5:19- "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous".

We have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations - Rom 1:5- "By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations..."

Jesus- being made perfect became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him- Heb.5: 9- "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him"

2. There are those who obey not the gospel of God

"or the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin] at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (1 Pet. 4: 17).

Jesus will appear in flaming fire taking vengeance (consequences) to them that know NOT God and that obey NOT the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

[7] And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

[8] In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

[9] Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. "(2 Thes.1: 7- 9).

Those who are contentious and obey not the truth but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath [2] But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.

[4] Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

[5] But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

[8] But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

[9] Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; Romans 2:2,4-5,8-9

The Galatians were bewitched having received the Spirit were they made perfect by the flesh by the law- in seeking to now do so they obeyed NOT the truth

[1] O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

[2]...Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

[3] Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? (Gal.3: 1-3)

3. God gives His Holy Ghost to them that obey the gospel

“And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him” (Acts 5:32)- CF Eph.1:13- In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

To them that obey-

We are to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates and be ready to every good work “Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work” (Tit.3: 1).

When Peter was asked to cease from preaching the name of Jesus - he told them they ought to obey God rather than man- Acts 5:29- “Then Peter and the [other] apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men”

Titus remembered the obedience of the church at Corinth

[14] For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which I made before Titus, is found a truth.

[15] And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him. (2 Cor7:14-15).

The Philippians had always obeyed not as in his presence only but in his absence- work out your salvation with fear and trembling- Phil.2: 12- Wherefore...as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling...”

Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ made you free- be not entangled by those who require you to be hindered by the law that you should obey not the truth

[1] Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

[7] Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?

[12] I would they were even cut off which trouble you. (Galatians 5:1,7,12).

Illustration

For those that have been Christians for 10 years-plus where the honeymoon period of just loving the Lord is ended, then you will know what it means to experience tribulation, patience, and hope. Ultimately you will have experienced on your journey a level of the Father’s correction (for He corrects those whom He loves- Prov.3: 12, Heb.12: 6- “For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth”). And on that journey you will have learnt fear and trembling, as our “God is a consuming fire” (Heb.12: 29).

Questions

i) What can we learn from Jesus’ obedience?

ii) Why are there eternal consequences for those who obey not the gospel, when we are called to believe the gospel?

Answers from the scriptures

i) Jesus, God’s only begotten Son learned obedience by the things he suffered

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

We are NOT to obey sin

[12] Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

[16] 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? Rom 6:12, 16

(ii) In our previous study we touched on the relationship between - obedience and believing, and we see that Paul spoke of not obeying the gospel then referring to faith and hearing the word of God

[16] But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

[17] So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:16-17

Remembering our previous teachings we wrap up: Let us obey God voice, by obeying the scriptures, our authority. Should we sin, disobey the word of God because we are now under grace, God forbid (Rom.6: 15). Your life, as a believer is a life of obedience to the Father, an example to others. And if you struggle with obedience, then be prepared to learn it the hard way- through the Lord’s correction.