September 2020

I Samuel 15:22

When a Christian is obedient to the commands of God, he is demonstrating his love for God.

2 Jn. 1:6 says, "And this is love: that we walk in **OBEDIENCE** to **HIS COMMANDS**. As you have heard from the beginning, His command is that you walk in love."

When we **OBEY GOD**, it means that we love Him. When a Christian **OBEYS GOD** and His leaders the Bible reveals to us that God will prosper him.

2 Chr. 31:20-21 says, "This is what Hezekiah did through Judah, doing what was good and right and faithful before the Lord his God."

"In everything that he undertook in the service of God's temple and in <u>OBEDIENCE</u>, he sought his God and worked <u>wholeheartedly</u>. And so, he <u>PROSPERED</u>."

The problem today in the church is that many of the Christians are very **DISOBEDIENT**. They know a lot of



Bible, but most of them do not put to practice the Word in their lives! They are just hearers of the Word of God! They refuse to OBEY the Word of God when it crosses the line of their will. They will obey the Word of God when

it is to their benefit! God cannot and will not <u>effectively</u> use a Christian who will not **OBEY!** God hates **DISOBEDIENCE!**

When a Christian obeys God, he will prosper.

2 Chr. 31:21

When a Christian disobeys God, he will not prosper.

What are some results of **DISOBEDIENCE**?

- YOU WILL FALL
- YOU WILL LOSE FAVOR WITH GOD
- YOU WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE LION

ADAM AND EVE FELL BECAUSE THEY DISOBEYED GOD

God commanded <u>Adam</u> not to eat from "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil!"

"And the Lord God <u>commanded the man</u>, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17).

Adam and Eve were perfect when God created them. They did not know sin! They were going to live forever in Perfect Paradise! The "perfect couple" had the world in their hands! They were going to have perfect children! They were in the presence of God day and night. But one day Adam and Eve decided to disobey the Word of God.

"When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she GAVE ALSO TO HER HUSBAND WITH HER, AND HE ATE." Gen 3:6 - N.A.S.

"...She also gave some to her husband, WHO <u>WAS</u> WITH HER, and HE ATE." Gen. 3:6 N.I.V.

God had given Adam a clear command and a word of warning, "for when you eat of it you will surely die."

The Creator gave man freedom to eat from any tree in the garden, except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Once a Christian chooses to go his way rather than Gods, the devil will suggest all sorts of reasons to encourage **DISOBEDIENCE**. Today, God still commands us and warns us with His **WORD**.

I Jn. 2:15-17 says, "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For <u>everything</u> in the world - the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives **FOREVER**."

But sad to say many people who have been touched by the power of God and are saved; choose to be like Adam and



Eve. They will listen to the voice of the serpent and disobey the Word of God. This is the reason why many Christians are falling today. **DISOBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD!** Because of disobedience Adam and Eve are kicked out of Eden and Paradise was lost.

"So, God drove the <u>MAN</u> out; and at the east of the garden of Eden, He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life" (Gen. 3:24).

Today when a Christian disobeys the Word of God the same will happen to him. Disobedience will lead you to your spiritual death and separation from God. Disobedience kills the anointing, His Life, the peace of God, the joy, happiness that God gave you at salvation. Today, if a Christian husband does not obey the Word of God concerning how he is to treat his wife and take care of his children, that marriage will fall to pieces! Today, if a Christian wife does not obey God and submit to her husband that marriage will fall apart!

WHY? DISOBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF GOD!

If a son or daughter does not obey God through their parents they will also fall! God commands them saying, "Honor your father and mother - which is the first <u>commandment</u> with a promise – That it may go well with you and that you may enjoy a <u>LONG LIFE ON THE</u> <u>EARTH</u>" (Eph. 6:2-3).

If a Christian decides to Disobey God through Church leadership, he will also fall away from following Jesus. He will gradually backslide.

Heb. 13:17 says, "<u>OBEY</u> your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep <u>watch</u> over you as men who must give an account. <u>OBEY</u> them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you."

"of no advantage to you", means that if you continue to disobey the Pastor you will eventually fall from Grace!

YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT DISOBEDIENCE CAUSED THE FALL OF MAN!

If a Christian wants to make it all the way to heaven, he is going to have to be **OBEDIENT TO THE WORD OF GOD**.

The Bible says, "...TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE..." I Sam. 15:22

God commands us to obey him. "YOU MUST <u>OBEY</u> MY LAWS AND BE CAREFUL TO FOLLOW MY **DECREES.** I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD" (Lev. 18:4).

When the Christian **OBEYS** God, he will <u>stand</u>. But if he DISOBEYS, he will FALL like Adam! (Matt. 7:24-27)

What are the results of **DISOBEDIENCE**?

YOU WILL LOSE FAVOR WITH GOD

King Saul lost the favor of God because of his disobedience. He was a man that was anointed by God.

I Sam. 15:1, "Samuel said to Saul, "I am the one the Lord sent to anoint you King over his people Israel;"

He was given orders by God to utterly, destroy the Amalekites.

I Sam. 15:3, "Now go, attack the Amalekites and TOTALLY DESTROY EVERYTHING that belongs to them. DO NOT SPARE THEM; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.'

But Saul decided to DISOBEY the command of God.



I Sam. 15:8-9 says, "He took Agag the King of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword. BUT SAUL and the army SPARED AGAG and the best of the sheep

and cattle... These they were UNWILLING TO DESTROY COMPLETELY..."

When God tells you to destroy the idols that you have in your heart do you OBEY HIM?

Or are we like "King Saul" and SPARE the little foxes that are in our hearts?

- * Lust
- * Rebellion
- * Stubbornness
- * Disobedient to leadership

If we disobey God and continue to walk in darkness and pretend, we are in the light we will displease God and lose His favor upon our lives!

I Sam. 15:10-11 says, "Then the word of the Lord came to Samuel; "I am grieved that I have made Saul King, because he has turned away from me and has not CARRIED OUT MY INSTRUCTIONS."

The moment that King Saul DISOBEYED GOD, he lost the FAVOR of God upon his life!

The moment that Adam DISOBEYED GOD, he also lost the favor of God on his life.

God was displeased that Saul had DISOBEYED HIM, so HE STRIPPED him of his Kingship.

Saul lost his anointing - "Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as King" (I Sam. 15:23).

He lost his ministry. At the end of his life Saul lost his salvation because he committed suicide! I Sam. 31:3-5

When Christians refuse to obey God and continues in his stubbornness, he will also end up like King Saul if he does not truly repent!

If we OBEY God, He promises to have His Favor upon us! HIS BLESSING will be upon us!

Lev. 26:3-13 says, "If you follow my decrees and are careful to OBEY MY COMMANDS, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land. I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down, and no one will make you afraid. I will remove savage beasts from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country... I will look on you with FAVOR and make you FRUITFUL and INCREASE your numbers, and I will keep my covenant with you..."

What is the result of DISOBEDIENCE?

YOU WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE LION Jer. 2:30

Lev. 26:14-25 (Penalties of Disobedience)

The result for our disobedience is the Lion against us will destroy all the blessings that God has given us. **Hos. 5:14**

But when we see the Lion coming at us and we REPENT, God will have mercy on us. We must be serious with God and Start OBEYING HIM once again with a sincere heart, if we want the blessing of God upon our lives! We must remember that God hates Disobedience! If we choose to OBEY, God's blessing will be upon us. If we choose to DISOBEY, God's hand will be against us!

CONCLUSION:

II Jn. 1:6 says, "And this is love; that we walk in OBEDIENCE to His commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love."

