



“But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.” (Mark 10:22)

Obedience



“And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant.” (Gen 17:14)

What is obedience?



❧ *“Obedience, is rightly placed before all other sacrifices, for in offering a victim as sacrifice, one offers a life that is not one’s own; but when one obeys one is immolating one’s own will.”*
(St. Gregory the Great)



Why is obedience important?



1. Obedience protects us from the traps of Satan

- ✧ “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” (Genesis 2:16-17)
- ✧ “For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.” (Romans 5:19)



Why is obedience important?



2. Obedience makes knowledge profitable

❧ “But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”
(James 1:25)

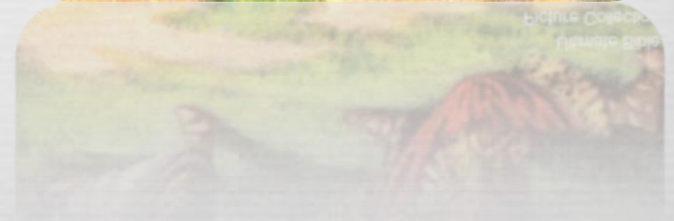
**BE DOERS
OF THE WORD,
AND NOT
HEARERS ONLY.**

Why is obedience important?



3. Obedience is a prerequisite to progress

- ✎ “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 heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king.” (1 Samuel 15:22)



Essential Principles



1. Faith is the foundation of obedience

- ✧ “As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?”
(Ezekiel 33:11)
- ✧ “...I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.”
(John 12:47)



Essential Principles



2. To be obedient, you do not have to agree

Ex: Abraham



Essential Principles



3. Obedience should be in the Lord

❧ “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”
(Ephesians 6:1)



Essential Principles



4. Obedience requires patience

☞ “By your patience possess your souls.”
(Luke 21:19)



PATIENCE

Is A Virtue

Personal Training



1. Make a resolution to obey someone
2. Be prompt
3. Volunteer

✧ *“There are three sorts of obedience:
the first, obedience when a **strict obligation** is
imposed upon us, and this **is good**;
the second when the **simple word of the superior**,
without any strict command, suffices for us, and this **is
better**;
the third, when a **thing is done without waiting for an
express command**, from a knowledge that it will be
pleasing to the superior, and **this is the best of all.**”
(Saint Ignatius)*

Conclusion



“Obedience unites us so closely to God that in a way transforms us into Him, so that we have no other will but His.

If obedience is lacking, even prayer cannot be pleasing to God.”
(Thomas Aquinas)