

OBEDIENCE IS A REQUIREMENT

By: Danny McGaughey

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Obedience is required by Jesus. In all situations, whether good or bad. [“So you shall keep my commandments and do them: I am the Lord.” \(Leviticus 22:31\)](#)

[“Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” \(John 14:21\)](#)

The Bible teaches us there are rewards for the Christians who obey God’s commands. Really, obeying God’s commands is a way of glorifying Him. Obeying also aligns our desires to His. We all have rules we must obey. They might be at school or laws of the land, and by that I mean traffic laws, tax laws, camp rules, etc. All of these are man-made, with some type of punishment when they are disobeyed. What is the punishment when we disobey God’s commands?

Obedience means we must submit to that authority. What does submit mean? Submitting can be tough based on the situation. Maybe it’s how do I treat others, especially during times of conflict. Obedience can be difficult because we humans can be really selfish. The good thing is, scripture assures us that God is trustworthy and that our obedience will lead us on the right path. The question is, do you love God and His Son Jesus? [“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” \(John 14:15\)](#)

[“But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command you, that it may be well with you.’” \(Jeremiah 7:23\)](#) God gave the Israelites, through Moses, 10 Commandments to obey. They apply to us also. Jesus made it easier to keep the 10 Commandments because if you can do what these verses instructs us to do, you’ll have kept the 10 commandments. ³⁷ [And He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’](#) ³⁸ [This is the great and foremost commandment.](#) ³⁹ [The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’](#) ⁴⁰ [On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.” \(Matthew 22:37-40\)](#)

Obedience is more than following a set of commands. It is more about loving others well. As Christians, we can trust that when we love God and love others through obeying His commands, the Lord will provide for our needs. Forgiveness is a choice to release resentment, anger or even hatred towards someone who has offended you. Jesus set the example for us. [“But Jesus was saying, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves.” \(Luke 23:34\)](#)

³¹ [Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.](#) ³² [Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” \(Ephesians 4:31-32\)](#)

Obedience is required by Jesus. in all situations, whether good or bad. Joseph, of the Old Testament, remained obedient to God during the bad circumstances in his life. He discovered that his obedience opened the door to freedom.

Joseph’s life was full of moments like these. When we experience disappointments and hurts, we can feel like we are in a pit. At one point in Joseph’s life he was in a literal pit. Let’s read and see how

Joseph remained obedient to God throughout the difficult situations he faced. Just as Joseph's obedience was a way to deliverance, by being obedient to God, He will get you through difficult situations in your life. Let's look at some of the hardships Joseph had to deal with because of his brothers.

Joseph is the favorite son of his father, Jacob. His brothers are jealous, especially about the coat of many colors. Joseph had dreams about his brothers serving him. To say they were jealous and mad at Joseph when he told them about it is an understatement. Genesis 37:18-28 tells of Joseph being stripped of his coat and his brothers throwing him into a pit. Then they sold him into slavery, which led him to Egypt. Why did his brothers hate him so much? Jealousy. After Joseph was sold into slavery an Egyptian official, Potiphar, bought him. Joseph excelled and was put in charge of Potiphar's household and property. Potiphar's wife lied about Joseph because he rejected her advances.

²⁰ So Joseph's master took him and put him into the jail, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; and he was there in the jail. ²¹ But the Lord was with Joseph and extended kindness to him, and gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer. ²² The chief jailer committed to Joseph's charge all the prisoners who were in the jail; so that whatever was done there, he was responsible for it. ²³ The chief jailer did not supervise anything under Joseph's charge because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made to prosper." (Genesis 39:20-23)

Joseph is now in prison. That's bad, right? No, it's good. Here is why. We move forward with Pharaoh, the King of Egypt, having dreams. They were very disturbing to Pharaoh. Joseph interpreted the dreams. Because of this, ⁴¹ Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt." ⁴² Then Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen and put the gold necklace around his neck." (Genesis 41:41-42) From a pit to second in command of Egypt. Obedience to Jesus is required in all circumstances. Hold on and let Jesus guide your path. Have a blessed week.

Jesus, Guide My Path: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=woNiRqfGbDk&list=RDwoNiRqfGbDk&start_radio=1