

Standing On The Rock 3 – The Word And Obedience

A. “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” **Matthew 7:24-27**

B. Obedience Honors The Lord

1. Obedience is different from good works.
 - a. Good works are done before others as a witness to them.
 - b. Obedience is what you do when you’re alone, seen only by God.
 - c. This is more than your outward actions; it is your character.
2. Obedience is not just joining the church, the ushers, or greeters.
3. It is more than witnessing or giving money in the offering.
4. None of these things should be done to earn God’s blessing.

“So Samuel said: 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.” **1 Samuel 15:22**
5. We should serve God from a strong hunger or desire to do His will.

“Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek Your statutes.” **Psalms 119:155**
6. Knowing God and keeping His commandments are tied together.

“He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” **1 John 2:4**
7. Who we say we are and what we do are tied together.

“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” **Luke 6:46**

C. Obedience Is No Option

1. We are not to come to church, receive the Word, and do nothing.
2. The blessing comes from being obedient to the promises of God.
 - a. “...be doers of the word...” **James 1:22**
 - b. **Matthew 7:24-27**
3. There is a divine discipline for not being obedient to what we know.

“And that servant who knew his master’s will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to

whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more." **Luke 12:47-48**

4. Perhaps the missing part of your spiritual growth is obedience.
"Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." **2 Timothy 3:7**
5. God's pattern for spiritual growth from the Word is:
 - a. Study the Word.
 - i. Personal study
 - ii. Church services
 - iii. Recordings, books, radio
 - b. Meditate on the Word.
 - i. The Word possessing your thoughts brings revelation.
 - ii. This is the light of the Holy Spirit which turns the promises on the page into personal revelation and guidance.
 - c. Be obedient to the Word of God.
"Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." **Joshua 1:7-8**
"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper." **Psalms 1:1-3**
6. Obedience is part of the display of our love for God.
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength." **Deuteronomy 6:5**
"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome." **1 John 5:3**
7. Grace is a part of our service for the Lord.
 - a. God has provided everything we need to accomplish His will.
"...I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." **Hebrews 8:10**
 - b. God wants "unique people, zealous of good works." (**Titus 2:14**)
 - c. The Gospel is to be preached "made known unto all men for the obedience of faith." (**Romans 16:26**)

D. Results Of Obedience

1. Godliness is profitable in all areas of life (**1 Timothy 4:8**).
2. By obedience, we purify our souls (**1 Peter 1:21**).

3. Obedience opens our ears to hear the voice of God (**1 John 3:22**).
4. Obedience brings new revelations of Jesus Christ (**John 14:21**).
5. Obedience opens paths of pleasantness & peace (**Proverbs 3:17**).
6. With obedience comes great rewards (**Psalm 19:11**)