

## **OBEDIENCE: THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE IN LIFE**

### **(A) MEANING OF OBEDIENCE**

**Obedience** can briefly be defined as “the act of subjecting one’s whole being to any particular authority”. It can also be defined as “being compliance with an order, request, or law or submission to another’s authority”; and this fits for the [modern] Greek word *ypakoi*.

In Christianity, obedience simply means “a spiritual sense of worship where one’s whole being has been subjected to God Almighty through the law of Christ”. Christians are to be tractable to Christ alone, but must also obey rules and regulations from authorities that do not defile the law of Christ (see Rom 13:1-7).

Regardless of the conditions at hand, Christians are obligated to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29; 1 Sam 15:24; Acts 4:19): Whosoever obeys also humbles.

### **(B) CHARACTERISTICS OF OBEDIENT SOUL IN CHRISTIANITY**

- a. Subjects himself to God’s will and purpose (Rom 6:16-17; James 4:6-10; 1 Pet 5:6-7).
- b. Practices God’s command (Matt 7:21-27; James 1:22-25; 1 Jn 3:18).
- c. Loves Jesus (John 14:15; 15:14), and presents the whole being to Him as a living sacrifice (Rom 12:1-2).
- d. Seeks to please Jesus Christ (Jn 15:14; Gal 1:10; 1 Thes 2:4).
- e. Forsakes the world (James 4:4-5; 1 Jn 2:15-17).

- f. Lives after spiritual examples (Jn 13:15; 1 Co 10:11; Heb 9:9; 1 Pet 2:21; James 5:10-11).
- g. Practices righteousness (Acts 10:34-35; 1 Jn 2:29).

### **(C) THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE IN LIFE**

- a. Obeying God incurs more blessings than any sacrifice of the flesh (1 Sam 15:22; Psalm 112:1).
- b. God gives grace unto the humble (James 4:6; compare Luke 14:11).
- c. The life of the obedient is prolonged by God on earth (Deut 6:2; Phil 3:20; Eph 6:1-3).
- d. Obedience helps open great doors to the believer (Rev 3:7-8).
- e. God's mystery is revealed unto the obedient/humble (Matt 11:25-26; compare Luke 10:21).
- f. Obedient women become daughters of Sarah (1 Pet 3:6).
- g. Obedience saves one from being condemned in judgement (Eccl 12:13-14; see Rom 8:1-2; John 3:18-19; 5:24).
- h. The believer's name is written in the book of remembrance before God (Mal 3:7, 16-18; compare Rev 20:15).
- i. Those who obey God will not face His wrath (Rom 2:8-10; 2 Thes 3:8-10).
- j. The obedient shall inherit heaven (Matt 7:21-23).

**THE END!**

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