

THE BIBLE VIEW

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There's A Terrible Price for Not Obeying God

Bill Brinkworth

Prior to Deuteronomy 28, Moses detailed many of God's laws to Israel. He made the people aware that they would be blessed by God, if they would follow them; and that He would curse their properties, efforts, and lives if they did not honor His commandments.

Although recited more than 1,450 years before the birth of Christ, God's warnings should still be heeded today. God does not change. Although our salvation is not related to good works, we should know that what pleased Him then, still pleases Him. What brought His wrath then will bring it upon people today. No one gets away with iniquity, and disobedience is sin.

*"And it shall come to pass, **if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:" Deut. 28:1***

In Deut. 28:1, Moses told his people that if they would follow

all God's commandments, He would bless them in 18 different ways (Duet. 28:1-13). Some of those areas in which God would bless them included: making them superior over other nations, their cities and other lands would be blessed by the Creator, and what grew would prosper. They would be successful in battle. They would be a holy people. Enemies would fear their godly reputation. God would bless the earth for their needs. They would be lenders not borrowers, and they would be leaders and not followers. The ways God would bless them covered most facets of their lives. His promises would give them a wonderful life, but to obtain it they had to be obedient to God's commandments.

We can also have God's hand of blessings on our lives, if we will follow God's commandments. The only difference between now and then is that to be His child, we must first be saved. Once that occurs, we should then obey all that He shows us in His preserved Word, the Bible, to receive His blessings.

*"But it shall come to pass, **if thou wilt not** hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee." Deut. 28:15*

If the saved obey, they will be blessed; but there are tremendous consequences if they do not obey what God expects of them. There are approximately 101 curses put on those that chose not to obey them. The price of rebelling against God is extremely high. Some of the shows of God's

wrath against those that chose to rebel against Him include: what they could have been blessed with will be the same areas they will have God's hand of wrath upon them (vss. 16-19), His rebuke, destruction of what was built or achieved, diseases, problems with weather and the earth, defeats in battles and problems with enemies, mental problems, no prosperity, marital failures, loss of property, family failures, immigration problems, false religions misleading them, loss of respect from other nations, pestilences, crop failures, freedoms lost, men and woman weakening and not living up to their responsibilities, disappearance of natural affection and love, loss of peace, a scattered nation, and overcome by fears.

There are 89 cursings mentioned in Deut. 28:16-68, however, 12 more curses were mentioned in Deut. 27:15-26. Some of those curses include: idolatry, hatred of parents, dishonesty, sexual sins, and murders.

Many say that if we do not stop sinning, God's hand of wrath will be upon us. Since much of the world is not obeying the Word of God, His wrath is on us now! Israel did not get by with their sin, neither will anyone! An informed person can see many of God's curses are occurring today.

However, as wicked as the world has become and as much as it has angered God, we can be different individually. We can choose to obey and serve the Lord today, and please Him rather than anger Him. There are great blessings in serving and obeying the Lord. A content and God-blessed life is far better than a life without His blessings.

“Almighty God has posted His ‘No Trespassing’ signs everywhere, but in spite of His warnings men deliberately go their own way!” — Oliver Green

Wisdom about Obedience

Watson, 1696

- *“And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,” Deut. 10:12*
God commands nothing but what is beneficial. To obey God is not so much our duty as our privilege. He bids us to repent, that our sins may be blotted out (Acts 3:19). He commands us to believe, that we may be saved (Acts 16:31).

There is love in every commandment. His commandments are as if a king should bid one of his subjects dig in a gold mine, then take the gold for himself.

- Some will partially obey some commandments and not others. Their obedience is much like a plow which, when it comes to a stiff piece of earth, jumps over the obstacle, and does not turn it over to make it prepared to grow seeds. The God that spoke all the words of the moral law, still desires that all His commandments should be obeyed.
- The true obedience of faith should be cheerful obedience. God's commandments should not seem

grievous. Do you look upon God's commandments as your burden, or as an iron fetter upon your leg, or a gold chain about your neck?

“For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.” *Romans 5:19*

Do Not Question or Doubt

C. H. Spurgeon

"Sir," said the Duke of Wellington to an officer of engineers, who argued the impossibility of executing the directions he had received, "I did not ask your opinion, I gave you my orders; and I expect them to be obeyed."

Such should be the obedience of every follower of Jesus. The words which He has spoken are our laws, not our judgments or fancies. Even if death were in the way it is "Not ours to reason why, but ours is to dare and die," at our Master's bidding. Advance through flood or flame.

“True obedience hath no lead at its heels.” — *Adams, 1653*

Less Obedient Than the Pooch

Christian Treasury, 1889

"I wish I could mind God as my little dog minds me," said a little boy, looking thoughtfully on his shaggy friend. "He always looks so pleased to mind, and I don't."

What a painful truth did this child speak! Shall the poor little dog thus readily obey his master, and we rebel against God, who is our Creator, our Preserver, our Father, our Saviour, and the bountiful Giver of everything we love?

“Obedience to God is the most infallible evidence of sincere and supreme love for him.” — *Emmons*

Obedience Is the Very Best Way

Child's Song, Author Unknown

Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.

Doing exactly as the Lord commands, doing it happily.

Action is the key, do it immediately, joy you will receive.

Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.

O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E.

Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.

We want to live pure, we want to live clean, we want to do
our best.

Sweetly submitting to authority, leaving to God the rest.

Walking in the light, keeping our attitude right, on the
narrow way.

For if we believe the Word we receive, we always will
obey.

O-B-E-D-I-E-N-C-E.

Obedience is the very best way to show that you believe.

“True obedience knows no delays.” — *Author Unknown, 340-420 AD*