

Obedience is Faith

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Our obedience to God is the same as our faith in Christ. *Romans 10:17* “Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.” The word of Christ is to hear His teaching, and to live by those divine principles of truth. *Matthew 7:24* “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” When we obey the Word of God, our spiritual house of faith will not fall in times of trial.

The whole world is against trusting God for divine healing, but the believer is to place their entire faith on the atonement blood of Christ. It would not matter if the entire world rejected God’s Word, and even if every professing Christian disobeyed the plain teaching of the Bible, we, as an individual believer in Christ, are to *walk* in obedience to the Word of God.

If everyone in the world opposes us for trusting God in financial matters, we still have to obey the Scriptures. God’s love has enlightened us to see the importance of placing our treasure in heaven, by giving it away on earth.

God told Noah to build an ark, because a great flood would destroy all life on earth, due to their unbelief, wickedness, rebellion, and sin. For one hundred twenty years, Noah preached a message of repentance to those people, but no one believed him, and no one turned back to God—except eight individuals.

The world mocked, ridiculed, and made fun of Noah, but Noah was wisely obeying God and putting His Words into practice. *Hebrews 11:7* “Through faith Noah, being divinely taught about things as yet unseen, reverently gave heed and built an ark for the safety of his family, and by this act he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which depends on faith.”

God gave Noah the courage to stand against opposition and persecution, and the ability to obey His Word—even with the entire world against him. Noah’s actions showed his faith in God, and by his obedience, he condemned the world. Judgment was pronounced on a rebellious, unbelieving, and disobedient world.

If we were the only individual on the face of the earth, with the whole world against us and mocking us, our responsibility is to obey God concerning every issue of life. One with God, is a majority with the world. *Romans 8:31* “If God is for us, who can ever be against us?” Our obedience is to be just as real, as Noah’s was—every time and all the time.

If there was not one church or minister on earth giving the full truth of God’s Word, we would have to take our own Bible and obey it. We, as individual believers, are directly responsible to do the will of God—and the will of God is written in the Word of God. Each individual is responsible to know what the Bible teaches, because every individual will have to answer for what they did with what it plainly states—trusting God for every issue in life.

Satan does not want anyone to read the Bible, because he is afraid they will understand it and obey it. God’s Word is so plain that anyone can know how He wants us to conduct our lives. Even most religious groups oppose Bible teaching on insurance, but having any type of insur-

ance is as much a sin as lying, stealing, or taking someone’s life. Those transgressions are one-fold sins, but insurance is a three-fold disobedience of God’s Word.

God says we are to take no thought for the next day—financially. *Matthew 6:34* “Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.” All life insurance is taking thought for tomorrow, and ten or fifteen years in the future. God says not to plan for the future, so all insurance is a direct disobedience of that Scripture.

Insurance is a disobedience of Bible teaching on putting all our trust on God for protection. We are commanded *1 Timothy 6:17* not “to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.” If we place any amount of money aside with an insurance company, we are laying up treasure on earth, and trusting in that uncertain money, instead of the living God. If God has promised to take care of us during our lifetime, He will surely take care of us when our time on earth is over.

Insurance is a financial gamble. If we continue to live, the insurance company wins, and if we pass away, we win—but are in no position to accept what the company would have to give. Jesus gave clear teaching on finances—do not lay it up on earth. *1 Timothy 6:3* “Some false teachers may deny these things, but these are the sound, wholesome teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they are the foundation for a godly life.”

4-5 “Anyone who teaches anything different is both conceited and ignorant. Such a person has an unhealthy desire to quibble over the meaning of words. This stirs up arguments ending in jealousy, fighting, slander, and evil suspicions. These people always cause trouble.

Their minds are corrupt, and they don't tell the truth [blinded to all knowledge of the truth].

6-7 *"To them religion is just a way to get rich. Yet true religion with contentment is great wealth. After all, we didn't bring anything with us when we came into the world, and we certainly cannot carry anything with us when we die."*

Labor unions hate the teaching of God's Word, because it is against everything they stand for. Union workers band together to avenge themselves, fight for better working conditions, force employers to pay higher wages, and demand increased pension benefits. Consider how many Scripture verses are disobeyed by such Satan-controlled groups. Romans 12:19 *"Never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God. For it is written, 'I will take vengeance; I will repay those who deserve it,' says the Lord."*

Whatever conditions exist at our place of business, we are to Ephesians 6:6 *"Obey [our employer] not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart."* If we are paid the lowest wage allowed, we are to *be content with our pay* Luke 3:14 as a believer in Christ. Our *pension* is our *faith* in our bank account in heaven that cannot be depleted Luke 12:33. To join a labor union, is to be guilty of a four-fold sin.

God's Word is so plain that only the devil could distort its teaching. 1 Peter 2:18-19 *"[Employees] be submissive to your masters, and show them the utmost respect—not only if they are kind and thoughtful, but also if they are unreasonable. For it is an acceptable thing with God, if, from a sense of duty to Him, a man patiently submits to wrong, when treated unjustly."* We have to obey because it is faith in Christ.

1 Peter 2:21 *"To this you were called; because Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving you an example so that you should follow in His steps."* We follow His example because He paid for our sins. 24-25 *"The burden of our sins He Himself carried in His own body to the Cross and bore it there, so that we, having died so far as our sins are concerned, may live righteous lives. By His wounds yours have been healed. For you were straying like lost sheep, but now you have come back to the Shepherd and Protector of your souls."*

Any hard place is a test of obedience and faith. If we meet with a financial need, it will test our faith in God to supply it. The world seeks to borrow the money, but God says, *"Owe no one anything"* Romans 13:8. That means not to borrow from anyone, not purchase anything on credit, and not hint to anyone that we need money. It means we are to get on our knees, and tell God all about it. He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers, will do far more for us.

When we settle the matter and decide to trust God alone, He will open the windows of heaven, and pour out a financial blessing that will more than cover the need. If we depend on human sources, Satan is able to block the answer to prayer. We often look north, south, east, or west, when God only permits us to look up.

If we are sincere in wanting to know what God will do for us, we will trust Him for every aspect of life here on earth, while we wait for our home in heaven. The devil often has us looking to everyone, and to every possibility where the money could come from, when we are permitted only to look to God, because Philip- pians 4:19 *"my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."*

Instead of being anxious, we should be on our knees, and confessing our lack of faith. When we take an uncompromising attitude of faith in God, by obeying His Word, no matter what the circumstances may be or how bleak the situation may seem, He will come to our rescue, if it emptied heaven to do it.

God is love 1 John 4:8, so He could only respond to our cry for mercy in that way. Romans 8:32 *"He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously [freely] give us all things?"* God will surely provide every lesser need we could possibly have.

Perfect obedience brings perfect happiness, peace, and contentment—spiritually, physically, financially, and in everything. All it takes is a final decision to trust God, by obeying His Word in believing faith. God's way is the only way. If we will decide that obeying God in faith must prevail, He will provide the ability to obey. When we make that right and scriptural decision, the devil himself cannot block our blessings—spiritually, physically, financially, or on any other issue.



www.fcgchurch.org

First Century Gospel Church

PO Box 24283
PHILA PA 19120-5283
info@fcgchurch.org