

Sermon Notes (March 18, 2018)

RE–EXPERIENCE: Experiencing God in Your Life

Part 7: “Obedience = Experiencing God = Obedience”

“You can’t stay where you are and go with God in obedience to His will. Until you are ready to make any change necessary to follow and obey what God has said, you will be of little use to God.” -Henry Blackaby

“Obedience to God is not an option – it is required of every servant. ... Many Christians and churches come to this moment of truth and decide the cost is too great. What they often do not consider is what it may cost them to not obey.” -Henry Blackaby

“Forbid that we should ever consider the holding of a commission from the King of Kings a sacrifice, so long as other men esteem the service of an earthly government as an honor. I am a missionary, heart and soul. God Himself had an only Son, and He was a missionary and a physician. A poor, poor imitation I am, ... but in this service I wish to live. In it I wish to die. I still prefer poverty and missions service to riches and ease. This is my choice.” -David Livingstone, Missionary to Africa

“If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice is too great for me to give for Him.”
C.T. Studd, Missionary to China, India, & Africa

Matt 12:50 “For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.”

Jn 14:15,24 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. ... He who does not love Me does not keep My words;”

Matt 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

1. Obedience is:

- Doing *what* God asks
- Doing it *when* God asks
- Doing it with a *right heart attitude*

Matt 21:28-30 “But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go, work today in my vineyard.’²⁹ He answered and said, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he regretted it and went.³⁰ Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go.³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?”

2. How important is obedience?

- When God reveals His will, we are not to discuss or debate it.
- We are not called to “wrestle with” God’s will.
- Obedience brings promotion & blessing.

Deut 28:1,8 “Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. ... The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

- **Disobedience brings judgment & curses.**

Deut 28:15,20 “But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: ... The Lord will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me.”

1 Sam 15:23 “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.”

- **Obedience brings satisfaction and blessings and provides a solid foundation for our lives**

Lk 6:46-49 “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? ⁴⁷Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. ⁴⁹But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

3. Obedience is our moment of truth

- Obedience reveals what we really believe about God.
- Obedience determines whether we will experience God’s mighty work in/through us.
- Obedience determines whether we will come to know God more intimately.

4. Taking the first step:

- **“Obey what you already know to be God’s will.”**

Obedience = experiencing God

Disobedience = missing God

“No Reserves” “No Retreats” “No Regrets” -William Borden

Phil 2:7-8 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.