

Significance of the Cross...

The authors of the gospels tell us that the Lord Jesus spoke of the cross before His death (**Matt. 10:38; Mark 10:21; Luke 14:27**) as a symbol of the necessity of full commitment (even unto death) for those who would be His disciples. But the major significance of the cross after Jesus' death and resurrection is its use as a symbol of Jesus' willingness to suffer for our sins (**Phil. 2:8; Heb. 12:2**) so that we might be reconciled (**2 Cor. 5:19; Col. 1:20**) to God and know His peace (**Eph. 2:16**).

Thus the cross symbolizes the glory of the Christian gospel (**1 Cor. 1:17**): the fact that through this offensive means of death (**1 Cor. 1:23; Gal. 5:11**), the debt of sin against us was "nailed to the cross" (**Col. 2:14**), and we, having "been crucified with Christ" (**Gal. 2:20**), have been freed from sin and death and made alive to God (**Rom. 6:6-11**).

The cross, then, is the symbol of **Jesus' love, God's power to save**, and the thankful believer's unreserved commitment to Christian discipleship. To those who know the salvation that Christ gained for us through His death, it is a "wondrous cross" indeed.

Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary

**OBEDIENCE
TO GOD**

The Holy Bible,
**New King James
Version,**
(Nashville, Tennessee:
Thomas Nelson, Inc.) 1982.

This booklet has been compiled from the new Topical Textbook, and the Bible extracts taken from the references mentioned in the Bible. I hope that this may become easier for you to find out His message relating to this Topic directly from the Bible, and how you could apply this to your personal life according to the world around you and your own circumstances.

Believing in the message and without doubt, one begins to realize how from the beginning of the Bible until the end, God does give us the same message, and no matter how we try to interpret it, the essence and core of our explanation comes directly from the His Word.

We will miss out on the issues relating to these extracts but I trust that these extracts will lead you to further study these circumstances and story leading to these messages.

This has been my Way of discovery, from my own personal decision to find out more about my Creator and what He wants of me. Through His Word He has revealed many insights that have excited me to keep searching for more, and this has now become a daily habit for me.

Best wishes in your discovery, through your own and personal commitment!

Enjoy your Day!

...through Jesus Christ our saviour!

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commandments (assuming (b), and accentuating (a)). Disobedience it describes as not hearing God's voice when he speaks (Ps. 81:11; Je. 7:24-28).

According to Scripture, God demands that his revelation be taken as a rule for man's whole life. Thus obedience to God is a concept broad enough to include the whole of biblical religion and morality. The Bible is insistent that isolated external acts of homage to God cannot make up for a lack of consistent obedience in heart and conduct (1 Sa. 15:22; cf. Je. 7:22f.).

The disobedience of Adam, the first representative man, and the perfect obedience of the second, Jesus Christ, are decisive factors in the destiny of everyone. Adam's lapse from obedience plunged mankind into guilt, condemnation and death (Rom. 5:19; 1 Cor. 15:22). Christ's unflinching obedience 'unto death' (Phil. 2:8; cf. Heb. 10:5-10) won righteousness (acceptance with God) and life (fellowship with God) for all who believe on him (Rom. 5:15-19).

In God's promulgation of the old covenant the emphasis was on obedience as his requirement if his people were to enjoy his favour (Ex. 19:5, etc.). In his promise of the new covenant, however, the emphasis was on obedience as his gift to them, in order that they might enjoy his favour (Je. 31:33; 32:40; cf. Ezk. 36:26f.; 37:23-26).

Faith in the gospel, and in Jesus Christ, is obedience (Acts 6:7; Rom. 6:17; Heb. 5:9; 1 Pet. 1:22), for God commands it (cf. Jn. 6:29; 1 Jn. 3:23). Unbelief is disobedience (Rom. 10:16; 2 Thes. 1:8; 1 Pet. 2:8; 3:1; 4:17). A life of obedience to God is the fruit of faith (cf. what is said of Abraham, Gn. 22:18; Heb. 11:8, 17ff.; Jas. 2:21ff.).

Christian obedience means imitating God in holiness (1 Pet. 1:15f.) and Christ in humility and love (Jn. 13:14f., 34f.; Phil. 2:5ff.; Eph. 4:32-5:2). It springs from gratitude for grace received (Rom. 12:1f.), not from the desire to gain merit and to justify oneself in God's sight. Indeed, law-keeping from the latter motive is not obedience to God, but its opposite (Rom. 9:31-10:3).

Obedience to divinely-established authority in the family (Eph. 5:22; 6:1ff.; cf. 2 Tim. 3:2), in the church (Phil. 2:12; Heb., and in the state (Mt. 22:21; Rom. 13:1ff.; 1 Pet. 2:13ff.; Tit. 3:1), is part of the Christian's obedience to God. When claims clash, however, he must be ready to disobey men in order not to disobey God (cf. Acts 5:29).

BIBLIOGRAPHY. W. Mundle, *NIDNTT* 2, pp. 172-180.
from "New Bible Dictionary"

Zacharias & co.

Luke 1:6

⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

Paul

Acts 26:19

¹⁹ “Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Saints of Rome

Romans 16:19

¹⁹ For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.

OBEDIENCE. The Heb. verb translated ‘obey’ in EVV is *שָׁמַע* *b^c*, lit. ‘hearken to’. The verb used in LXX and the NT is *hypakouo* (noun, *hypakoe*; adjective, *hupemkoos*), a compound of *akouo*, which also means ‘hear’. *hypakouo* means literally ‘hear under’. The NT also uses *esakouo* (1 Cor. 14:21), lit. ‘hear into’, *peithomai*, and *peitharcho* (Tit. 3:1). The two latter words express respectively the ideas of yielding to persuasion and submitting to authority. The idea of obedience which this vocabulary suggests is of a hearing that takes place *under* the authority or influence of the speaker, and that leads *into* compliance with his requests.

For obedience to be due to a person, he must: (a) have a right to command, and (b) be able to make known his requirements. Man’s duty to obey his Maker thus presupposes: (a) God’s Lordship, and (b) his revelation. The OT habitually describes obedience to God as obeying (hearing) either his *voice* (accentuating (b)) or his

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from New Topical Textbook

Obedience to God.

1. Commanded. **De 13:4.**
2. Without faith, is impossible. **Heb 11:6.**
3. Includes
 - a. Obeying his voice. **Ex 19:5; Jer 7:23.**
 - b. Obeying his law. **De 11:27; Isa 42:24.**
 - c. Obeying Christ. **Ex 23:21; 2Co 10:5.**
 - d. Obeying the gospel. **Ro 1:5; 6:17; 10:16,17.**
 - e. Keeping his commandments. **Ec 12:13.**
 - f. Submission to higher powers. **Ro 13:1.**
4. Better than sacrifice. **1Sa 15:22.**
5. Justification obtained by that of Christ. **Ro 5:19.**
6. Christ, an example of. **Mt 3:15; Joh 15:20; Php 2:5-8; Heb 5:8.**
7. Angels engaged in. **Ps 103:20.**
8. A characteristic of saints. **1Pe 1:14.**
9. Saints elected to. **1Pe 1:2.**
10. Obligations to. **Ac 4:19,20; 5:29.**
11. Exhortations to. **Jer 26:13; 38:20.**
12. Should be
 - a. From the heart. **De 11:13; Ro 6:17.**
 - b. With willingness. **Ps 18:44; Isa 1:19.**
 - c. Unreserved. **Jos 22:2,3.**
 - d. Undeviating. **De 28:14.**
 - e. Constant. **Php 2:12.**
13. Resolve upon. **Ex 24:7; Jos 24:24.**

Obedience to GOD.....

14. Confess your failure in. **Da 9:10.**
15. Prepare the heart for. **1Sa 7:3; Ezr 7:10.**
16. Pray to be taught. **Ps 119:35; 143:10.**
17. Promises to. **Ex 23:22; 1Sa 12:14; Isa 1:19; Jer 7:23.**
18. To be universal in the latter days. **Da 7:27.**
19. Blessedness of. **De 11:27; 28:1-13; Lu 11:28; Jas 1:25.**
20. The wicked refuse. **Ex 5:2; Ne 9:17.**
21. Punishment of refusing. **De 11:28; 28:15-68; Jos 5:6; Isa 1:20.**
22. Exemplified
 - a. Noah. **Ge 6:22.**
 - b. Abram. **Ge 12:1-4; Heb 11:8; Ge 22:3,12.**
 - c. Israelites. **Ex 12:28; 24:7.**
 - d. Caleb &c. **Nu 32:12.**
 - e. Asa. **1Ki 15:11.**
 - f. Elijah. **1Ki 17:5.**
 - g. Hezekiah. **2Ki 18:6.**
 - h. Josiah. **2Ki 22:2.**
 - i. David. **Ps 119:106.**
 - j. Zerubbabel. **Hag 1:12.**
 - k. Joseph. **Mt 1:24.**
 - l. Wise men. **Mt 2:12.**
 - m. Zacharias &c. **Lu 1:6.**
 - n. Paul. **Ac 26:19.**
 - o. Saints of Rome. **Ro 16:19.**

David

Psalm 119:106

¹⁰⁶ I have sworn and confirmed
That I will keep Your righteous judgments.

Zerubbabel

Haggai 1:12

¹² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him; and the people feared the presence of the LORD.

Joseph

Matthew 1:24

²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife,

Wise men

Matthew 2:12

¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Caleb & co.

Numbers 32:12

¹² ‘except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, the Kenizzite, and Joshua the son of Nun, for they have wholly followed the LORD.’

Asa

1 Kings 15:11

¹¹ Asa did *what was* right in the eyes of the LORD, as *did* his father David.

Elijah

1 Kings 17:5

⁵ So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.

Hezekiah

2 Kings 18:6

⁶ For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD had commanded Moses.

Josiah

2 Kings 22:2

² And he did *what was* right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.

Commanded

Deuteronomy 13:4

⁴ “You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

Without faith, is impossible

Hebrews 11:6

⁶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Includes...

...Obeying his voice

Exodus 19:5

⁵ ‘Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine.

Jeremiah 7:23

²³ “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’

...Obeying his law

Deuteronomy 11:27

²⁷ “the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today;

Isaiah 42:24

²⁴ Who gave Jacob for plunder, and Israel to the robbers?
Was it not the LORD,
He against whom we have sinned?
For they would not walk in His ways,
Nor were they obedient to His law.

...Obeying Christ

Exodus 23:21

²¹ “Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name *is* in Him.

2 Corinthians 10:5

⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

...Obeying the gospel

Romans 1:5

⁵ Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,

Hebrews 11:8

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Genesis 22:3,12

³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ¹² And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from Me.”

Israelites

Exodus 12:28

²⁸ Then the children of Israel went away and did *so*; just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

Exodus 24:7

⁷ Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.”

Isaiah 1:20

²⁰ But if you refuse and rebel,
You shall be devoured by the sword";
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Exemplified...

...Noah

Genesis 6:22

²² Thus Noah did; according to all that God
commanded him, so he did.

...Abram

Genesis 12:1-4

Now the LORD had said to Abram:

¹ "Get out of your country,
From your family
And from your father's house,
To a land that I will show you.

² I will make you a great nation;

I will bless you

And make your name great;

And you shall be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you,

And I will curse him who curses you;

And in you all the families of the earth shall
be blessed."

⁴ So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken
to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram
was seventy-five years old when he departed
from Haran.

Romans 6:17

¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were
slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart
that form of doctrine to which you were
delivered.

Romans 10:16,17

¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For
Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our
report?" ¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and
hearing by the word of God.

...Keeping his commandments

Ecclesiastes 12:13

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole
matter:

Fear God and keep His commandments,
For this is man's all.

...Submission to higher powers

Romans 13:1

¹ Let every soul be subject to the governing
authorities. For there is no authority except
from God, and the authorities that exist are
appointed by God.



Better than sacrifice

1 Samuel 15:22

²² Then Samuel said:

¹ “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.

Justification obtained by that of Christ

Romans 5:19

¹⁹ For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

Christ, an example of

Matthew 3:15

¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, “**Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**” Then he allowed Him.

John 15:20

²⁰ “**Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.**”

those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. ⁶⁶ “Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life. ⁶⁷ “In the morning you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were evening!’ And at evening you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were morning!’ because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see. ⁶⁸ “And the LORD will take you back to Egypt in ships, by the way of which I said to you, ‘You shall never see it again.’ And there you shall be offered for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will buy *you.*”

Joshua 5:6

⁶ For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people *who were* men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD—to whom the LORD swore that He would not show them the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, “a land flowing with milk and honey.”

of everything in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates.

⁵⁸ “If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, THE LORD YOUR GOD, ⁵⁹ “then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses. ⁶⁰ “Moreover He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. ⁶¹ “Also every sickness and every plague, which *is* not written in this Book of the Law, will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed. ⁶² “You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God. ⁶³ “And it shall be, *that* just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.

⁶⁴ “Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone. ⁶⁵ “And among

Philippians 2:5-8

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross.

Hebrews 5:8

⁸ though He was a Son, *yet* He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Angels engaged in

Psalms 103:20

²⁰ Bless the LORD, you His angels,
Who excel in strength, who do His word,
Heeding the voice of His word.

A characteristic of saints

1 Peter 1:14

¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance;

Saints elected to

1 Peter 1:2

² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

Obligations to

Acts 4:19,20

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. ²⁰ “For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”

Acts 5:29

²⁹ But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: “We ought to obey God rather than men.

Exhortations to

Jeremiah 26:13

¹³ “Now therefore, amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; then the LORD will relent concerning the doom that He has pronounced against you.

new wine or oil, *or* the increase of your cattle or the offspring of your flocks, until they have destroyed you. ⁵² “They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you. ⁵³ “You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you. ⁵⁴ “The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, ⁵⁵ “so that he will not give any of them the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates. ⁵⁶ “The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter, ⁵⁷ “her placenta which comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack

your trees and the produce of your land. ⁴³
“The alien who *is* among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. ⁴⁴ “He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. ⁴⁵ “Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you. ⁴⁶ “And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever. ⁴⁷ “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything, ⁴⁸ “therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you. ⁴⁹ “The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, *as swift* as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand, ⁵⁰ “a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favor to the young. ⁵¹ “And they shall eat the increase of your livestock and the produce of your land, until you are destroyed; they shall not leave you grain or



Jeremiah 38:20

²⁰ But Jeremiah said, “They shall not deliver *you*. Please, obey the voice of the LORD which I speak to you. So it shall be well with you, and your soul shall live.

Should be...

...from the heart

Deuteronomy 11:13

¹³ And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul,

Romans 6:17

¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

...with willingness

Psalms 18:44

⁴⁴ As soon as they hear of me they obey me; The foreigners submit to me.

Isaiah 1:19

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
You shall eat the good of the land;

...unreserved

Joshua 22:2,3

² and said to them: “You have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you. ³ “You have not left your brethren these many days, up to this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God.

...undeviating

Deuteronomy 28:14

¹⁴ “So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, *to* the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

...constant

Philippians 2:12

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

daughters *shall be* given to another people, and your eyes shall look and fail *with longing* for them all day long; and *there shall be* no strength in your hand. ³³ “A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor, and you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually. ³⁴ “So you shall be driven mad because of the sight which your eyes see. ³⁵ “The LORD will strike you in the knees and on the legs with severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head. ³⁶ “The LORD will bring you and the king whom you set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods—wood and stone. ³⁷ “And you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the LORD will drive you. ³⁸ “You shall carry much seed out to the field but gather little in, for the locust shall consume it. ³⁹ “You shall plant vineyards and tend *them*, but you shall neither drink *of* the wine nor gather the *grapes*; for the worms shall eat them. ⁴⁰ “You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you shall not anoint *yourself* with the oil; for your olives shall drop off. ⁴¹ “You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity. ⁴² “Locusts shall consume all

LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed. “The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth. ²⁶ “Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten *them* away. ²⁷ “The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed. ²⁸ “The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. ²⁹ “And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save *you*. ³⁰ “You shall betroth a wife, but another man shall lie with her; you shall build a house, but you shall not dwell in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but shall not gather its grapes. ³¹ “Your ox *shall be* slaughtered before your eyes, but you shall not eat of it; your donkey *shall be* violently taken away from before you, and shall not be restored to you; your sheep *shall be* given to your enemies, and you shall have no one to rescue *them*. ³² “Your sons and your



Resolve upon

Exodus 24:7

⁷ Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.”

Joshua 24:24

²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!”

Confess your failure in

Daniel 9:10

¹⁰ “We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.

Prepare the heart for

1 Samuel 7:3

³ Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, “If you return to the LORD with all your hearts, *then* put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines.”

Ezra 7:10

¹⁰ For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do *it*, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.

Pray to be taught

Psalms 119:35

³⁵ Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.

Psalms 143:10

¹⁰ Teach me to do Your will,
For You *are* my God;
Your Spirit *is* good.
Lead me in the land of uprightness.

Promises to

Exodus 23:22

²² “But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

1 Samuel 12:14

¹⁴ “If you fear the LORD and serve Him and obey His voice, and do not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then both you and the king who reigns over you will continue following the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 28:15-68

¹⁵ “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: ¹⁶ “Cursed *shall you be* in the city, and cursed *shall you be* in the country. ¹⁷ “Cursed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl. ¹⁸ “Cursed *shall be* the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. ¹⁹ “Cursed *shall you be* when you come in, and cursed *shall you be* when you go out.

²⁰ “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. ²¹ “The LORD will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. ²² “The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish. ²³ “And your heavens which *are* over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you *shall be* iron. ²⁴ “The

The wicked refuse

Exodus 5:2

² And Pharaoh said, “Who *is* the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.”

Nehemiah 9:17

¹⁷ They refused to obey,
And they were not mindful of Your wonders
That You did among them.
But they hardened their necks,
And in their rebellion
They appointed a leader
To return to their bondage.
But You *are* God,
Ready to pardon,
Gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger,
Abundant in kindness,
And did not forsake them.

Punishment of refusing

Deuteronomy 11:28

²⁸ “and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known.

Isaiah 1:19

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
You shall eat the good of the land;

Jeremiah 7:23

²³ “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’

To be universal in the latter days

Daniel 7:27

²⁷ Then the kingdom and dominion,
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.
His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

Blessedness of

Deuteronomy 11:27

²⁷ “the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today;

Deuteronomy 28:1-13

¹ “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. ² “And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: ³ “Blessed *shall you be* in the city, and blessed *shall you be* in the country. ⁴ “Blessed *shall be* the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. ⁵ “Blessed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl. ⁶ “Blessed *shall you be* when you come in, and blessed *shall you be* when you go out. ⁷ “The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. ⁸ “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. ⁹ “The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways. ¹⁰

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“Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. ¹¹ “And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. ¹² “The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³ “And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe *them*.

Luke 11:28

²⁸ But He said, “**More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!**”

James 1:25

²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.