

THE BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE

(Kaitaia Abundant Life Centre - 19/8/90 - EKB)

A life of obedience to God's will is a blessed life.

God's blessing rests upon those who walk in obedience to His will.

1. *Ps 112:1* Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments.
Lk 11:28 Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it."
Lk 8:21 Jesus said, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the Word of God and do it." These are the blessings of a close personal relationship to Jesus.
Mat 7:24,25 Jesus said, "Whoever hears these sayings of Mine and does them, I will liken to a wise man who built his house upon the Rock. The blessings of God's keeping power to stand unmoved through every storm, test trial, persecution.
Jam 1:22-25 We are blessed in what we do as we hear and obey the Word of God.
1Jn 3:22 The blessing of answered prayer is for those who keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing to Him.

2. However God's blessing is **not a reward for obedience**. God does not reward our obedience or say things like, "If you are a good boy, and do as I say, I will buy you an ice cream!"

Lk 17:7-10. Here Jesus explains to us that our obedience to the will of God is a **minimum requirement** in our relationship to Him. There is no place for rebellion in our relationship to God.

3. *Lk 6:46*. Jesus said, "Why do you call Me Lord, Lord and do not the things that I say?" He is our Lord and Master, Saviour and Redeemer, God and King. The only right way to relate to Him is to seek and do His will.
4. Nevertheless there is great blessing upon our lives as we obey God and do His will. *Jn 12:50*. Jesus said, "I know that His (God's) commandment is life everlasting." God's will for us is an expression of His love, and is for our highest good.

Sometimes obedience to God's will involves **suffering and persecution**.

Mk 10:29,30. Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, there is no man who has left house or brothers...for My sake and the gospel's, who shall not receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brothers,..... **with persecutions**; and in the age to come, eternal life.

God's commands are for our highest good and bring His blessings into our lives. Love does not seek its own advantage at the expense of another.

5. *Josh 1:7,8* Obedience brings prosperity and good success.
Ps 1:1-3 The blessings of God are on those who delight and meditate in the law of the Lord. day and night.
 - a. constant supply of refreshing waters.
 - b. continued fruitfulness.
 - c. always fresh and growing.
 - d. prosperity in all things.