

 Basic Habits
Of A Disciple = Obeying God
 ✓The Freedom Of Obedience


"Adam answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" Gen. 3:10-11


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Adam and Eve got what they wanted:


- an intimate knowledge of both good and evil.
- But they got it by doing evil, and the results were disastrous.
- Sometimes we have the illusion that freedom is doing anything we want.


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God says that true freedom comes from

- obedience and
- knowing what not to do.
 - The restrictions He gives us are for our good, helping us avoid evil.





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➤Obeying God Is In Our Best Interest

"Look, today I have set before you life and death, depending on whether you obey or disobey. I have commanded you today to love the Lord your God and to follow his paths and to keep his laws, so that you will live and become a great nation, and so that the Lord your God will bless you and the land you are about to possess."

Deuteronomy 30:15-16


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- God's laws are written in the Bible and are clearly evident in the world around us.
- Obeying them is reasonable, sensible, and beneficial.
- The most difficult part of obeying God's laws is simply deciding to start now.



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➤ True Freedom is Obeying God, Even When We Don't Understand


"Because you Levites did not carry the Ark the first time, the anger of the LORD our God burst out against us. We failed to ask God how to move it in the proper way."

1 Chron 15:13




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- When God gives specific instructions, it is wise to follow them precisely
- We may not fully understand the reasons behind God's instructions,
 - but we do know that his wisdom is complete and his judgment infallible.
- It is far better to obey God first, and then discover the reasons.
- never free to disobey when don't understand


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➤ Just Understanding God's Ways is Not Obedience

- This is the challenge of information
 - Knowledge can deceive us into thinking we are living out the ways of God
 - Knowledge is not a replacement for life!


"Those who teach God's laws and obey them shall be great in the Kingdom of Heaven. "Mat 5:19


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✓When Know What To Do – Do It

"Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it." James 4:17





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✓The Benefits Of Obedience

➤ Obedience To God Keeps Us From Harm & Helps Release God's Healing

"If you will listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and obey it, and do what is right, then I will not make you suffer the diseases I sent on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord who heals you." Exodus 15:26


There may be many reasons as to why a person is not healed – this may be one of them.


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➤ Obedience Will Move Us Into Success


"Constantly remind the people about these laws, and you yourself must think about them every day and every night so that you will be sure to obey all of them. For only then will you succeed." Josh 1:8


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✓The Benefits Of Obedience

God's Measure of Success:

- Involves our obedience and faithfulness to Him
 - regardless of opposition and personal cost
- Are we being loyal to Him in our personal relationship with Him and in our life?
- Are we accomplishing His goals & purposes for our life?




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➤Obedience to God Often Results in Prosperity in this World


- Living by God's principles brings results
- For example, when we tithe, God opens the "floodgates of heaven" and pours out great blessings
 - The devourer is also rebuked
- All of this (if managed right & proper attitude) can lead to a measure of prosperity



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- God taught Joshua that to succeed
 - must be strong and courageous, because the task ahead would not be easy
 - obey God's law
 - constantly read and study the Book of the Law
- This is good counsel for us also!




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✓The Benefits Of Obedience

➤Obedience To God Often Leads To Peace

"Asa became the new king of Judah, and there was peace in the land for the first ten years of his reign, for Asa was careful to obey the Lord his God." 2 Chronicles 14:1-2


- Obedience to God leads to peace with God
- Obedience may not always bring peace with our enemies, but it will bring peace with God



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✓Follow God Wholeheartedly

Caleb: "I was forty years old when Moses, the servant of the LORD, sent me from Kadesh-barnea to explore the land of Canaan. I returned and gave from my heart a good report, . . . For my part, I followed the LORD my God completely. So that day Moses promised me, 'The land of Canaan on which you were just walking will be your special possession and that of your descendants forever, because you wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.' Jos 14:7-9


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 ✓ Follow God Wholeheartedly

To have Caleb's spiritual stamina –

1. Do Not Compromise - he stood his ground and held fast to the truth of the Promised Land at the risk of being ostracized or even killed.
 - Of the 2-3 million Israelites who had left Egypt, only Caleb and Joshua made it to the Promised Land.
 - Seek God's approval over man's.


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2. Take God at His Word
 - Caleb believed that God would keep his promise to him to enter the Promised Land
 - even though he had to wait through forty years of wilderness wandering
3. Desire Fellowship with Him
 - Caleb sought fellowship with God, and God gave Caleb the strength to keep going through even the most discouraging times


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