

# Obeying God



Whether we chose to obey God or not, we will face our decision about that choice before the very one who gave us the choice to begin with. We will have no excuse about what we have done.

# WHO IS THIS GOD WE ARE TO OBEY?

## 3 REASONS FOR GOD TO INTRODUCE HIMSELF IN THIS PASSAGE

*Genesis 1:1 KJV*

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

1. To identify himself as the creator
2. To explain the origin of the world He created
3. To tie the works of the past to the works of the future

## GOD AS DESCRIBED BY THE PROPHETS:

*Jeremiah 10:10-12 KJV*

*[10] But the Lord is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. [11] Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. [12] He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.*

## ALL OTHER GODS:

*Jeremiah 10:3-5 KJV*

*[3] For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. [4] They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. [5] They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.*

## THE GOD WE ARE TO OBEY:

*Genesis 3:8 KJV*

*And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.*

God gave Adam and Eve a choice to love God or not. This choice extends to each and every one of us each day. Every person ever created must make the same choice as Adam and Eve.

1. The creator of the heavens and the earth
2. The God in the garden of Eden
3. The God who created Adam and Eve
4. The God who walked with Enoch for 300 years
5. The God of judgement, of promise (rainbow), of multiple languages, of the nation of Israel, of the Ten Commandments, of the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, of our savior, his son, Jesus Christ, of the Holy Spirit, of the church, of our salvation, of the judgement of all mankind, of Hell, of Heaven.

# WALKING IN OBEDIENCE WITH GOD

## JESUS IS OUR PATTERN FOR LEARNING OBEDIENCE

*John 8:29 KJV*

*And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.*

## HOW DO WE LEARN TO BE OBEDIENT?

*1 John 2:5 KJV*

*But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.*

1. Choose to trust God in all matters
2. Determine to wait upon God in prayer
3. Meditate upon His word daily - *You cannot lead an obedient life with a closed Bible*
4. Be willing to walk where the way is not clear
5. We must be willing to experience conflict
6. We must be willing to leave the consequences to him for our obedience
7. We must be willing to accept divine chastisement in response to our disobedience
8. What would keep me from saying "God, I choose to obey you and leave all the consequences to you."

## THE GREATEST ENEMY TO OBEDIENCE IS PARTIAL OBEDIENCE

*Genesis 2:16-17 KJV*

*[16] And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: [17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

Doing what God says, when he says it. The Garden of Eden was God's first school room and the lesson was on obedience. Obeying God in the small stuff is as important as obeying him in the big stuff and when we choose our way over God's way we head down the road to disobedience.

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## WALKING IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD - NOAH

*Genesis 6:5-8 KJV*

*[5] And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. [6] And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. [7] And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. [8] But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*

God told Noah to build the ark because of the impending judgment that was coming on the earth. The whole time Noah was building the ark, the world watched him. It was no secret to them, Noah made it clear that God told him to build protection from the impending judgement, and yet NOT ONE FAMILY believed.

### WHY DID GOD CHOOSE NOAH?

1. Righteous, blameless, and obedient to God
2. Only righteous family on earth acceptable to God

### THE CONFLICT NOAH ENDURED

1. His explanation to others about what God had ask of him.
2. How does Noah explain this plan, that god made known only to him, to his family so that they'll support him.
3. Noah had to drop what he was doing and become a boatbuilder without knowing any details about how to build, where materials would come from, or how long it would take.
4. Noah had to rely on his faith the whole time he was building. God was providing, but on a daily needed basis, not a big picture explanation.
5. The daily mocking from all the people about what Noah was doing and the silence from God about the details.
6. The task Noah had been asked to do seemed so overwhelming that it weighed on him as to wether he had really heard all this from God in the first place.
7. When the door of the ark closed, it marked a perceptible moment and a physical line between those who would live and those who would die. Noah grew up with and knew many of the people on the other side of the door.
8. When the rain started, it was the moment in which the terrible judgement had begun.

The technology we enjoy today and take for granted, did not exist in the days of Noah. We have comfort, pleasure, splendor, and knowledge the likes the world has never seen and yet we have become the same wicked that permeated mankind in that day. Why?

# THE COURAGE TO OBEY GOD

## Joshua 1:1-9 KJV

[1] Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass, that the Lord spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, [2] Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. [3] Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. [4] From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. [5] There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. [6] Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them. [7] Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. [8] This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. [9] Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

## THE WISEST THING IS TO OBEY GOD

1. COURAGE: the quality of mind enabling us to meet danger.
2. Courage is often required to obey God or to begin to do his will.
3. The reason for threescore courage:
  1. Courage
  2. God loved Joshua
  3. He watched him with Moses for 40 years.
4. No matter what we think we might lose or what it costs us, to obey God is always right.
5. Do we have the courage to follow God?
6. God made promises to Joshua and he makes promises to us today.
7. Trust the lord with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding.
8. The promises of God are unchanging.
9. Meditate on the Word and God will speak to your heart.
10. Read the word of God consistently.

## THE KEY TO COURAGE:

1. Read God's word consistently.
2. Live by God's word.
3. Obey the word, meditate day and night.

## THE BENEFITS OF OBEYING GOD:

1. Quiet our spirit.
2. Purifies our heart.
3. Sharpens our perceptions.
4. Clarifies our direction.
5. Confirms or cautions our counsel.
6. Increases our faith.
7. Enlarges our view of God.
8. Keeps us focused on God.