

THE POWER IN OBEDIENCE

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you! Have

Topic:
THE POWER OF OBEDIENCE

Bible Text: Phillipians 2:8

Prayer

We Thank You Father 🙌, You have been our Help, and we are forever grateful. We pray that You will continue to Teach us Your Way, till Christ is fully formed in us, in Jesus Name. Amen...🙏

Introduction

I greet everyone and welcome you to the last phase of the year. God has been so faithful to you and I. Glory be to the name of the Lord.

Today, we will be looking at a very wonderful and eye opening topic. It is one of the teachings every christian needs in their journey of faith. Therefore, I would love to get your rapt and full attention this hour. May the Lord bless His word in Jesus Christ's name.

Study

Just as we know that obedience means to conform to or comply with something or someone. One of the aspects many christians have missed is the aspect of being obedient. Many would have become great people if they had only obeyed. Many have truncated their destinies and ended up not fulfilling destiny just because they couldn't obey. To be sincere, there are a lot of things many would have touched by now if only they obeyed. The power in obedience cannot be underestimated. For every person you see out there who became great in Christ, it is majorly because they obeyed God at a point in time.

There is No great man on Earth (whether christian or unbeliever) who didn't obey either God or a principle. When you see someone who is not born again making it, it is because such person obeyed a principle. If you work hard and you are intentional about your finances, you will definitely have a stable finance except if forces of darkness are against you. God is always trying to make us see reasons to obey Him, but many of us do not care about

it as long as such instructions seem too hard to follow. We only want to do easy things and not pay the price for anything and it doesn't work that way.

Tonight, I will show us that even Jesus Christ obeyed when it wasn't convenient for Him. Or do you think such was immortal when on Earth? No! The bible records that Jesus was like us. He was a mere human whose blood count gushed out of His body. So, there could have been instructions His flesh wouldn't have loved to do in which yet, He did. We will critically look at Christ's obedience. Please, follow carefully as the Holy Spirit ministers to us Himself.

Christ's obedience on the cross

Philippians 2:8:

"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Please, read the above text again and again and let it sink into you. You know most times, when we quote this part of the scriptures, we quickly want to get to verse 10 where the name of Jesus Christ is mentioned. We just skim through this part without having a deep knowledge about it. Let us critically go into it now. Like I told us, Jesus was a man and was like us when He was on Earth. The bible records that He became obedient UNTO DEATH. I want to show us what really transpired on the cross which Jesus Christ endured and remained obedient still. Please, be very sensitive now!

Heb 5:7-8:

"Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;"

The above verse is talking about Jesus that in the days of His flesh, the beatings and sufferings they gave Him really caused pains in His flesh that He cried. It is very normal for a mere man to cry when he undergoes severe pain and that was what happened to Jesus on the cross. Sincerely, trying to quantify the sufferings of Jesus, you will see that the pains He went through can be compared to nothing! It was just too much. Despite having been beaten and nailed to the cross, someone still pierced Him with a spear on the cross. Just imagine the pain. He was nailed and wouldn't have been able

to even touch the place and massage it a bit after he was pierced. What excruciating pain He would have felt!

Now, take note of the last sentence:

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;"

When I received a deep interpretation about this part, I wondered how mighty God is. Do you know that even up till the time Jesus was on the cross, God was still teaching Him obedience? You might be thinking that how come God is teaching Jesus who knows everything about obedience again. But, I tell you, Jesus learned obedience even through everything He suffered and God was using that to also teach us that we can pass through various situations just to learn something. He might make us pass through different situations to learn some things.

When Jesus was on the cross and it got to a point, He cried out **"My father, my father, why hast thou forsaken me"**. That was because when Jesus was on the cross, He was bearing the sins of the world and because He became sin for us,

2 Cor 5:21:

"For he hath made him to be SIN FOR US, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

God could not behold Him from above but was seeing sin and He had to hide His face because He is too holy to behold sin. God could have saved Jesus before it got to that extent but God refrained Himself from the pain of seeing His only son pass through that and was taking Jesus through the aisle of obedience. It wasn't easy for Jesus to continue the mission He was sent by God to do (to die for the sins of men), but God taught Him obedience to His will at all times by strengthening Him in the garden of Gethsemane and making sure He completed the mission. Wow!

So, do you see that even Jesus Christ was undergoing learning when His persecution started. Which means there is no one too big to learn. We know that many of what Jesus did, He did deliberately for us to learn from. He might not have done some things and nothing would have happened, but He did them because of us. Jesus learned obedience through sufferings and His crucifixion. No matter what you are passing through now, it could be as a result of what God wants you to learn through it. This is why whatever

situation you pass through, be sensitive to know if it is from God or the devil. Not all are from the devil, some are from God just to take you through the journey of obedience. This is why immediately after Jesus learnt obedience and was faithful, He was highly exalted! What comes after sincere obedience is honour and being exalted.

Heb 5:8-9: "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;"

After Jesus learnt obedience, it now became easier to save those who also obey Him, because God taught Him what obedience truly was. God didn't use His speech to teach Him that but the situations He made Him pass through. This is why sometimes, we don't learn through words but actions. Children mostly do not learn through the words you tell them but through what you do in their sight. If you are a parent here, know that you need to be very careful of what you do in the presence of your little children because they are learning everything!

Because of what happened in Hebrews 5, this is what birthed Philippians 2:8-11:

"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

God didn't just exalt Him highly because He was a Son but because He displayed His true Sonship unto God through obedience even when death was near. How obedient are you?

Can you be obedient even when you are dying? Christ has paid the perfect example behind obedience for us. Once you understand it, you will get the full meaning of obedience. Obedience is not only doing that thing you are asked to do when it is convenient for you, it entails doing it even when you are in pain! Obedience is not bound by circumstances or situations. This is why you will see a Pastor who just lost his child still mount up the pulpit to preach on the next day. It is because His obedience is not based on circumstances and situations. Obedience unto death! Hmmm.

Let's quickly look at the power in obedience.

I believe we are getting blessed!

The power in obedience

All the power that lies in obedience is encapsulated in only this verse:

Isaiah 1:19:

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:"

As simple and short as this verse is, if you have a solidified meaning of the verse, I can tell you that you will be able to access all that obedience has to offer. This verse is a very common verse but many lack the power it carries. It is a very powerful verse. Willingness and obedience works hand in hand. If you are not willing, you won't obey. Many these days are not obedient to instructions just because they are not willing to obey. The verse says if ye are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.

I want you to understand that the "good" of the land does not just cut across material things. It cuts across everything you may think of that obedience has to offer. The verse can be interpreted in various ways like these;

If ye are willing and obedient, you shall eat the goodness that lies in God.

If ye are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of your country.

If ye are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good that people have to offer.

If ye are willing and obedient, you shall eat the goodness that are in this world.

It goes on and on.

What obedience does is that it shifts you into God's will and agenda if you have drifted away before. It guides you and stops the rate at which you misbehave. There are some people that God has told not to eat certain foods. It is because such foods could be used as poisoned substances against them by the devil in the near future. So, God is trying to protect them against that day by making sure they stop taking such foods.

There are some that God has told to stop watching some certain movies, singing some certain songs, wearing some certain dresses. God has told some to be praying for some specific hours in a day, studying for some

hours, interceding for people and a whole lot of instructions. However, God does not just give instructions, there are reasons behind every instruction He gives. God sees the future and He sees beyond what we can see, so if He is telling us to engage in some things, it's because there is something behind it. I remember that God told the coordinator of this platform to begin the ministry online some years back before coronavirus started at all. It was years after it had started that coronavirus came in and churches were banned from opening that we really knew why God gave such instruction then.

Obedience will keep you continually in the radar of God and make His attention be keen on you. Remember that after obedience, comes exaltation. Obedience comes as a result of being humble and the bible says God gives grace to the humble. When will you start doing that which God has told you to do? The painful part is that there are specific instructions for specific seasons. If you don't obey now, the season may pass and you won't be able to get blessed. If God is telling you to preach, preach! If He is telling you to learn a skill, learn! Do everything with passion. I know there are instructions that might be beyond your capacity looking at it but I tell you that no instruction God gives you will be beyond what you can do.

He knows our ability and capacity and won't give us what we can't handle. It becomes difficult when you try to handle and obey the instructions outside God. He gave the instructions and it must be done by His strength, not yours alone. Many are passing through tough times because they have not been obedient. Take a step today and be obedient to His instructions and may His grace abide with you in Jesus Christ name, Amen.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp +2347067511039 and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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