

# Joys and Blessings of Obedience

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I. Introduction.

II. Results of obedience.

- A. Abiding in God's love. (John 15:10)
- B. Being a friend of God. (John 13:14)
- C. Being a peculiar treasure to God. (Exodus 19:5)
- D. A worthwhile and long life. (Proverbs 3:1-2)
- E. Real enjoyment in life. (Leviticus 18:5)
- F. Keeping his blessing. (Deuteronomy 28:2)
- G. A holy life. (Ephesians 5:9-10)
- H. The gift of the fullness of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 5:32)
- I. Purification of the soul. (1 Peter 1:22)
- J. Effective prayers. (1 John 3:22)
- K. Spiritual prosperity. (Joshua 1:7)
- L. Revelation of Jesus. (John 14:21)

III. We disobey God because...

- A. We have a weak relationship with him.
- B. We think we know what is best for us. (Ephesians 1:8; Hebrews 11:26)
- C. We think God is trying to do something bad to us. (Jeremiah 29:11)
- D. It does not make sense what God is asking us to do.
- E. We do not understand what is going on.

IV. Prosperity generally comes from obedience but not always. (Proverbs 30:8-9; Deuteronomy 8:2-3)

V. Sometimes God prunes the one who is obedient. (John 15:5)

VI. We need to remember that all things work for the good of those who love him. (Romans 8:28)

VII. When we face difficulties...

- A. Believe that God is sovereign. (Isaiah 46:10; Psalm 115:3; Isaiah 14:24, 27)
- B. Believe that he knows what is going on. (Hebrews 4:13)
- C. Believe that he has all power. (Matthew 28:18)
- D. Believe that God loves you. (John 13:1)

VIII. Purification is part of God's job. We should see our trials in light of eternity. (Job 23:10; Isaiah 48:10; 2 Corinthians 4:18; Hebrews 11:23)

IX. Our response.

- A. Trust God. God takes us through victory little by little. (Exodus 23:27; Psalm 37:34)
- B. Realize God loves us.
- C. Guard against the little sins. (Song of Solomon 2:15)
- D. The direction we are moving is more important than the speed we are moving.
- E. Stay in the Word of God in order to know the will of God.
- F. Stay in fellowship with God and other believers.
- G. Continue to trust God in the face of unanswered questions.

**Application questions:**

1. Why do you fall into disobedience?

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2. How should we think about suffering in the Christian life?

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3. How can you prepare yourself to be obedient in the face of challenges? Explain.

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