

## ~OBEDIENCE (1611)

[Hebrew, *sha-ma`*; Greek, *hy-pa-kou'o*]

- **Obedience To God Essential For Life**
- **Counteracting Disobedience Due To Inborn Sin**
- **Obedience To Other Superiors**
- **Obedience To Parents And Husbands**
- **To Masters And To Governments**

• **The submitting to authority, the doing of what is commanded, the complying with what is required, or the abstaining from what is forbidden.**

• **In the Hebrew Scriptures the thought of obedience is expressed by *sha-ma`*, meaning, basically, hear or listen. Thus, at times *sha-ma`* refers to simple hearing, becoming aware of something through the auditory senses.**

• **Finally he said; Your voice I **heard** in the garden, but I was afraid because I was naked and so I hid myself. (Genesis 3:10)**

• **Then Abimelech said; I do not know who did this thing, neither did you yourself tell it to me, and I myself have also not **heard** of it except today. (Genesis 21:26)**

• **And Jacob **heard** that he had defiled Dinah his daughter. And his sons happened to be with his herd in the field, and Jacob kept silent until they should come in. (Genesis 34:5)**

• **But when what is spoken expresses will, desire, instruction, or command, then the sense of the **Hebrew** term is that of paying heed to or obeying the one speaking. Adam **listened** to his wife's voice, that is, **acceded to her desire** that he join her in eating the forbidden fruit.**

• **And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wifes voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command, You must not eat from it, cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your life. (Genesis 3:17)**

• **Then God said to Abraham; Do not let anything that Sarah keeps saying to you be displeasing to you about the boy and about your slave girl. **Listen** to her voice, because it is by means of Isaac**

- that what will be called your seed will be. (**Genesis 21:12**)
- Joseph refused to **listen** to the importunities of Potiphar's wife.
  - So it turned out that as she spoke to Joseph day after day he **never listened to her** to lie alongside her, to continue with her. (**Genesis 39:10**)
  - King Saul feared the people and so **obeyed, listened to,** their voice, overstepping God's order in doing so.
  - Then Saul said to Samuel; I have sinned, for I have overstepped the order of Yehowah and your words, because I **feared the people and so obeyed their voice.** (**1 Samuel 15:24**)
  - Yehowah's promise to Abraham concerning a seed was granted because Abraham, **listened to,** or **obeyed,** Yehowah's voice, keeping his commands.
  - And by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves due to the fact that you have listened to my voice. (**Genesis 22:18**)
  - And I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and I will give to your seed all these lands, and by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves. (**Genesis 26:4**)
  - Due to the fact that Abraham listened to my voice and continued to keep his obligations to me, my commands, my statutes, and my Laws. (**Genesis 26:5**)
  - By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed in going out into a place he was destined to receive as an inheritance, and he went out, although not knowing where he was going. (**Hebrews 11:8**)

### **See Also EAR**

- The same **Hebrew** term is used with reference to God in hearing or listening to men. Here the **English** term, **obedience,** is not suitable, since human's cannot command God but can only petition or supplicate him.

- Hence, when God told Abraham that as regards Ishmael I have **heard** you, he was telling Abraham that he had **given regard** to his request, **would act upon it**.
- But as regards Ishmael I have heard you. Look! I will bless him and will make him fruitful and will multiply him very, very much. He will certainly produce twelve chieftains, and I will make him become a great nation. (**Genesis 17:20**)
- In a similar way God **heard** or responded to the appeal of persons in times of difficulty or affliction, answering their pleas where he saw fit to show mercy.
- Further Yehowah's angel added to her; Here you are pregnant, and you shall give birth to a son and must call his name Ishmael, for Yehowah has heard your affliction. (**Genesis 16:11**)
- And she became pregnant again and brought a son to birth and then said; It is because Yehowah has **listened**, in that I was hated and so he gave me also this one. Hence she called his name Simeon. (**Genesis 29:33**)
- At that God heard the voice of the boy, and God's angel called to Hagar out of the heavens and said to her; What is the matter with you, Hagar? Do not be afraid, because God has listened to the voice of the boy there where he is. (**Genesis 21:17**)
- And Yehowah added; Unquestionably I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their outcry as a result of those who drive them to work, because I well know the pains they suffer. (**Exodus 3:7**)
- And I am proceeding to go down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a land good and spacious, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the locality of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. (**Exodus 3:8**)
- And now, look! The outcry of the sons of Israel has come to me, and I have seen also the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them. (**Exodus 3:9**)
- After that you returned and began to weep before Yehowah, but Yehowah did not **listen** to your voice, neither did he give ear to

you. (Deuteronomy 1:45)

- Similar to *sha-ma`*, one Greek verb expressing the idea of obeying *hy-pa-kou'o*, noun form *hy-pa-ko-e'* literally means, **hear under**, that is, **to hear submissively or to attend**.

- However, different ones mocked at them and began to say; They are full of sweet wine. (Acts of Apostles 2:13)

- Another term conveying the sense of **obedience** is *pei'tho*, which means, **persuade**.

- But the chief priests and the older men **persuaded** the crowds to ask for Barabbas, but to have Jesus destroyed. (Matthew 27:20)

- In the passive and middle voices it means not only to be **persuaded**.

- But he said to him; If they do not **listen** to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be **persuaded** if someone rises from the dead. (Luke 16:31)

- **To trust**

- He has put his **trust** in God, let Him now rescue him if He wants him, for he said; I am God's Son. (Matthew 27:43)

- **To believe**

- As a result some of them became **believers** and associated themselves with Paul and Silas, and a great multitude of the Greeks who worshiped God and not a few of the principal women did so. (Acts of Apostles 17:4)

- **But also to give heed.**

- At this they **gave heed** to him, and they summoned the apostles, flogged them, and ordered them to stop speaking upon the basis of Jesus name, and let them go. (Acts of Apostles 5:40)

- **To obey,**

- For instance, before these days Theudas rose, saying he himself was somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined

- his party. But he was done away with, and all those who **were obeying him** were dispersed and came to nothing. (**Acts of Apostles 5:36**)
- After him Judas the Galilean rose in the days of the registration, and he drew off people after him. And yet that man perished, and all those **who were obeying him** were scattered abroad. (**Acts of Apostles 5:37**)
  - From this term comes the negative form *a-pei-the'o*, meaning to **disbelieve**.
  - But the Jews that did **not believe** stirred up and wrongly influenced the souls of people of the nations against the brothers. (**Acts of Apostles 14:2**)
  - But when some went on hardening themselves and **not believing**, speaking injuriously about The Way before the multitude, he withdrew from them and separated the disciples from them, daily giving talks in the school auditorium of Tyrannus. (**Acts of Apostles 19:9**)
  - Or **disobey**
  - He that exercises faith in the Son has everlasting life, he that **disobeys** the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him. (**John 3:36**)
  - As well as other related terms.
  - From this it can be seen that **obedience**, as expressed in the original languages of the Scriptures, depends **first upon hearing**, that is, **receiving information or knowledge**
  - Then that slave that understood the will of his master but did not get ready or do in line with his will will be beaten with many strokes. (**Luke 12:47**)
  - But the one that did not understand and so did things deserving of strokes will be beaten with few. Indeed, everyone to whom much was given, much will be demanded of him, and the one whom people put in charge of much, they will demand more than usual of him. (**Luke 12:48**)

- Although formerly I was a blasphemer and a persecutor and an insolent man. Nevertheless, I was shown mercy, because I was ignorant and acted with a lack of faith. (**1 Timothy 1:13**)
- And then upon ones submitting to the will or desire of the one who speaks or otherwise expresses such will or desire. Submission, in turn, is dependent upon **recognition of that ones authority** or right to ask or require the response indicated, as also **upon the hearers desire or willingness to satisfy the will of such one**. As indicated by the **Greek *pei'tho*** and ***a-pei-the'o***, **belief, trust, and confidence** also enter in.

### ·· **Obedience To God Essential For Life**

- God has first claim to the **obedience** of all his creatures. They rightly owe him implicit **obedience** as their Maker, the Source from whom life derives and on whom life depends.
- O come in, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before Yehowah our Maker. (**Psalms 95:6**)
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasturage and the sheep of his hand. Today if you people listen to his own voice. (**Psalms 95:7**)
- Do not harden your heart as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the wilderness. (**Psalms 95:8**)
- Because he is the All-wise and Almighty God, what he says merits the utmost respect and attention. A human father properly expects his word to be carried out by his children, and if a child is slow to respond, the parent may say emphatically, Did you **hear** me? Far more so does the heavenly Father rightly **require receptive attention and response to his expressions**.
- In case a man happens to have a son who is stubborn and rebellious, he not listening to the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and they have corrected him but he will not listen to them. (**Deuteronomy 21:18**)
- His father and his mother must also take hold of him and bring him out to the older men of his city and to the gate of his place. (**Deuteronomy 21:19**)
- And they must say to the older men of his city; This son of ours

- is stubborn and rebellious, he is not listening to our voice, being a glutton and a drunkard. (**Deuteronomy 21:20**)
- Then all the men of his city must pelt him with stones, and he must die. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst, and all Israel will hear and indeed become afraid. (**Deuteronomy 21:21**)
  - **Listen**, O sons, to the discipline of a father and **pay attention**, so as to know understanding. (**Proverbs 4:1**)
  - And now, O Yehowah, you are our Father. We are the clay, and you are our Potter, and all of us are the work of your hand. (**Isaiah 64:8**)
  - As **obedient** children, quit being fashioned according to the desires you formerly had in your ignorance. (**1 Peter 1:14**)
  - There is no substitute for **obedience**, no gaining of God's favor without it. As Samuel told King Saul; Does Yehowah have as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in **obeying**, form of *sha-ma`* the voice of Yehowah? Look! To **obey**, **literally**, to **listen**, is better than a sacrifice, to pay attention than the fat of rams.
  - In turn Samuel said; Does Yehowah have as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of Yehowah? Look! To **obey** is **better than a sacrifice**, to pay attention than the fat of rams. (**1 Samuel 15:22**)
  - To fail to **obey** is to reject the word of Yehowah, to demonstrate that one really does not believe, trust, or have faith in that word and its Source. Hence the one failing to **obey** is no different from the one practicing divination or using idols.
  - For rebelliousness is the same as the sin of divination, and pushing ahead presumptuously the same as using uncanny power and teraphim. Since you have rejected the word of Yehowah, he accordingly rejects you from being king. (**1 Samuel 15:23**)
  - Do you not know that if you keep presenting yourselves to anyone as slaves to obey him, you are slaves of him because you obey him, either of sin with death in view or of **obedience** with righteousness in view? (**Romans 6:16**)

- **Verbal expressions of assent mean nothing if the required action does not follow, the lack of response proves a lack of belief or respect for the source of instructions.**
- **What do you think? A man had two children. Going up to the first, he said; Child, go work today in the vineyard. (Matthew 21:28)**
- **In answer this one said; I will, sir, but did not go out. (Matthew 21:29)**
- **Approaching the second, he said the same. In reply this one said; I will not. Afterwards he felt regret and went out. (Matthew 21:30)**
- **Which of the two did the will of his father? They said; The latter. Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and the harlots are going ahead of you into the kingdom of God. (Matthew 21:31)**
- **For John came to you in a way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and the harlots believed him, and you, although you saw this, did not feel regret afterwards so as to believe him. (Matthew 21:32)**
- **Those satisfying themselves with only hearing and giving mental acceptance to God's truth, but not **doing** what it calls for, are deceiving themselves with false reasoning and receive no blessing.**
- **However, become doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves with false reasoning. (James 1:22)**
- **For if anyone is a hearer of the word, and not a doer, this one is like a man looking at his natural face in a mirror. (James 1:23)**
- **For he looks at himself, and off he goes and immediately forgets what sort of man he is. (James 1:24)**
- **But he who peers into the perfect Law that belongs to freedom and who persists in it, this man, because he has become, not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, will be happy in his doing it. (James 1:25)**



- **God's Son made clear that even those doing things similar to those commanded, but evidently in a wrong way or with a wrong motive, would never gain entrance into the Kingdom but would be completely rejected.**
- **Be on the watch for the false prophets that come to you in sheeps covering, but inside they are ravenous wolves. (Matthew 7:15)**
- **By their fruits you will recognize them. Never do people gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles, do they? (Matthew 7:16)**
- **Likewise every good tree produces fine fruit, but every rotten tree produces worthless fruit. (Matthew 7:17)**
- **A good tree cannot bear worthless fruit, neither can a rotten tree produce fine fruit. (Matthew 7:18)**
- **Every tree not producing fine fruit gets cut down and thrown into the fire. (Matthew 7:19)**
- **Really, then, by their fruits you will recognize those men. (Matthew 7:20)**
- **Not everyone saying to me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but the one doing the will of my Father who is in the heavens will. (Matthew 7:21)**
- **Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name? (Matthew 7:22)**
- **And yet then I will confess to them; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness. (Matthew 7:23)**

### · **Counteracting Disobedience Due To Inborn Sin**

- **At the outset God informed man that obedience was basic, a life-and-death matter.**
- **And Yehowah God also laid this command upon the man; From every tree of the garden you may eat to satisfaction. (Genesis 2:16)**

- But as for the **tree of the knowledge of good and bad** you must not eat from it, for in the **day you eat from it you will positively die.** (**Genesis 2:17**)
- **The same rule applies to God's spirit sons.**
- **In this state also he went his way and preached to the spirits in prison.** (**1 Peter 3:19**)
- **Who had once been disobedient when the patience of God was waiting in Noah's days, while the ark was being constructed, in which a few people, that is, eight souls, were carried safely through the water.** (**1 Peter 3:20**)
- **And the angels that did not keep their original position but forsook their own proper dwelling place he has reserved with eternal bonds under dense darkness for the judgment of the great day.** (**Jude 1:6**)
- **Then he will say, in turn, to those on his left; Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.** (**Matthew 25:41**)
- **The willful disobedience of the perfect man Adam, as the responsible head over Eve and as the male progenitor or life source of the human family, brought sin and death to all his offspring.**
- **That is why, just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because they had all sinned.** (**Romans 5:12**)
- **For just as through the disobedience of the one man many were constituted sinners, likewise also through the obedience of the one person many will be constituted righteous.** (**Romans 5:19**)
- **By nature, then, men are sons of disobedience and children of wrath, meriting God's disfavor because of their violation of his righteous standards. Failure to resist this inherent inclination to disobedience is the course of ultimate destruction.**
- **In which you at one time walked according to the system of things of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, the spirit that now operates in the sons of disobedience.** (**Ephesians 2:2**)

- **Yes, among them we all at one time conducted ourselves in harmony with the desires of our flesh, doing the things willed by the flesh and the thoughts, and we were naturally children of wrath even as the rest. (Ephesians 2:3)**
- **Let no man deceive you with empty words, for because of the aforesaid things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. (Ephesians 5:6)**
- **Therefore do not become partakers with them. (Ephesians 5:7)**
- **For you were once darkness, but you are now light in connection with the Lord. Go on walking as children of light. (Ephesians 5:8)**
- **For the fruitage of the light consists of every sort of goodness and righteousness and truth. (Ephesians 5:9)**
- **Keep on making sure of what is acceptable to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:10)**
- **And quit sharing with them in the unfruitful works that belong to the darkness, but, rather, even be reproving them. (Ephesians 5:11)**
- **Do not be misled: God is not one to be mocked. For whatever a man is sowing, this he will also reap. (Galatians 6:7)**
- **Because he who is sowing with a view to his flesh will reap corruption from his flesh, but he who is sowing with a view to the spirit will reap everlasting life from the spirit. (Galatians 6:8)**
- **So let us not give up in doing what is fine, for in due season we shall reap if we do not tire out. (Galatians 6:9)**
- **Yehowah God has mercifully provided the means for combating sin in the flesh and for gaining forgiveness of wrongdoing resulting from imperfection rather than from willful disobedience. By his Holy Spirit, God supplies the force for righteousness that enables sinful men to produce good fruitage.**
- **But I say; Keep walking by spirit and you will carry out no fleshly desire at all. (Galatians 5:16)**

- **For the flesh is against the spirit in its desire, and the spirit against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, so that the very things that you would like to do you do not do. (Galatians 5:17)**
- **Furthermore, if you are being led by spirit, you are not under Law. (Galatians 5:18)**
- **Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (Galatians 5:19)**
- **Idolatry, practice of spiritism, enmities, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (Galatians 5:20)**
- **Envy, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (Galatians 5:21)**
- **On the other hand, the fruitage of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith. (Galatians 5:22)**
- **Mildness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:23)**
- **Moreover, those who belong to Christ Jesus impaled the flesh together with its passions and desires. (Galatians 5:24)**
- **For even we were once senseless, disobedient, being misled, being slaves to various desires and pleasures, carrying on in badness and envy, abhorrent, hating one another. (Titus 3:3)**
- **However, when the kindness and the love for man on the part of our Savior, God, was manifested. (Titus 3:4)**
- **Owing to no works in righteousness that we had performed, but according to his mercy he saved us through the bath that brought us to life and through the making of us new by Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5)**
- **This spirit he poured out richly upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. (Titus 3:6)**
- **That, after being declared righteous by virtue of the undeserved**

kindness of that one, we might become heirs according to a hope of everlasting life. (**Titus 3:7**)

- **Forgiveness for sins comes through faith in Christ's ransom sacrifice, and such faith in itself is a deterrent to wrongdoing and a stimulus to **obedience**.**
- **According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, with sanctification by the spirit, for the purpose of their being obedient and sprinkled with the blood of Jesus Christ. May undeserved kindness and peace be increased to you. (**1 Peter 1:2**)**
- **Thus Paul refers to **obedience**, **hearing submissively**, by faith.**
- **But has now been made manifest and has been made known through the prophetic scriptures among all the nations in accord with the command of the everlasting God to promote **obedience** by faith. (**Romans 16:26**)**
- **For I am not ashamed of the Good News. It is, in fact, God's power for salvation to everyone having faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (**Romans 1:16**)**
- **Consequently the word of God went on growing, and the number of the disciples kept multiplying in Jerusalem very much, and a great crowd of priests began to be **obedient** to the faith. (**Acts of Apostles 6:7**)**
- **Nevertheless, they did not all obey the Good News. For Isaiah says; Yehowah, who put faith in the thing heard from us? (**Romans 10:16**)**
- **So faith follows the thing heard. In turn the thing heard is through the word about Christ. (**Romans 10:17**)**
- **Nevertheless I ask, They did not fail to hear, did they? Why, in fact, into all the earth their sound went out, and to the extremities of the inhabited earth their utterances. (**Romans 10:18**)**
- **Nevertheless I ask, Israel did not fail to know, did they? First Moses says; I will incite you people to jealousy through that which is not a nation. I will incite you to violent anger through a**

stupid nation. (**Romans 10:19**)

- But Isaiah becomes very bold and says; I was found by those who were not seeking me. I became manifest to those who were not asking for me. (**Romans 10:20**)
- But as respects Israel he says; All day long I have spread out my hands toward a people that is **disobedient** and talks back. (**Romans 10:21**)
- He shows that hearing coupled with faith produces **obedience** and that the disobeying, disbelieving, from *a-pei-the'o* of the Israelites was due to lack of faith.
- But to whom did he swear that they should not enter into his rest except to those who acted **disobediently**? (**Hebrews 3:18**)
- So we see that they could not enter in because of lack of faith. (**Hebrews 3:19**)
- Since true faith is the assured expectation of things hoped for and the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld, and since it requires believing that God is and that he becomes the rewarder of those earnestly seeking him, those having faith are moved to obey, having confidence and assurance as to the blessings that **obedience** will bring.
- Faith is the assured expectation of things hoped for, the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld. (**Hebrews 11:1**)
- Moreover, without faith it is impossible to please him well, for he that approaches God must believe that he is and that he becomes the rewarder of those earnestly seeking him. (**Hebrews 11:6**)
- In harmony with this, God's communication to men is not simply a series of terse commands like those of an unfeeling dictator. God does not desire the kind of **obedience** one obtains from a beast with a bridle and bit.
- If we put bridles in the mouths of horses for them to obey us, we manage also their whole body. (**James 3:3**)
- I shall make you have insight and instruct you in the way you should go. I will give advice with my eye upon you. (**Psalms**

**32:8)**

- Do not make yourselves like a horse or mule without understanding, whose spiritedness is to be curbed even by bridle or halter Before they will come near to you. (**Psalm 32:9**)
- Not a perfunctory or a begrudging **obedience**, such as even the demons rendered to Christ and his disciples
- Well, the people were all so astonished that they began a discussion among themselves, saying; What is this? A new teaching! He authoritatively orders even the unclean spirits, and they obey him. (**Mark 1:27**)
- Then the seventy returned with joy, saying; Lord, even the demons are made subject to us by the use of your name. (**Luke 10:17**)
- Nevertheless, do not rejoice over this, that the spirits are made subject to you, but rejoice because your names have been inscribed in the heavens. (**Luke 10:20**)
- But **obedience** motivated by an appreciative heart is called for.
- Praise Yah, you people! Happy is the man in fear of Yehowah, in whose commandments he has taken very much delight. (**Psalm 112:1**)
- In my heart I have treasured up your saying; in order, that I may not sin against you. (**Psalm 119:11**)
- I have inclined my heart to do your regulations to time indefinite, down to the last. (**Psalm 119:112**)
- But thanks to God that you were the slaves of sin but you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were handed over. (**Romans 6:17**)
- Yes, since you were set free from sin, you became slaves to righteousness. (**Romans 6:18**)
- I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh, for even as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness with lawlessness in view, so now

- present your members as slaves to righteousness with holiness in view. (**Romans 6:19**)
- **Yehowah therefore accompanies his expressions of will and purpose with helpful information appealing to ones sense of justice and righteousness, to love and goodness, intelligence, reason, and wisdom.**
  - **And now, O Israel, what is Yehowah your God asking of you but to fear Yehowah your God, so as to walk in all his ways and to love him and to serve Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 10:12**)**
  - **To keep the commandments of Yehowah and his statutes that I am commanding you today, for your good? (**Deuteronomy 10:13**)**
  - **Also, he will go before him with Elijah's spirit and power, to turn back the hearts of fathers to children and the disobedient ones to the practical wisdom of righteous ones, to get ready for Yehowah a prepared people. (**Luke 1:17**)**
  - **Consequently I entreat you by the compassions of God, brothers, to present your bodies a sacrifice living, holy, acceptable to God, a sacred service with your power of reason. (**Romans 12:1**)**
  - **And quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by making your mind over, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (**Romans 12:2**)**
  - **Those with the right heart attitude obey out of love.**
  - **By this we gain the knowledge that we are loving the children of God, when we are loving God and doing his commandments. (**1 John 5:2**)**
  - **For this is what the love of God means, that we **observe his commandments**, and yet his commandments are not burdensome. (**1 John 5:3**)**
  - **And this is what love means, that **we go on walking according to his commandments**. This is the commandment, just as you people have heard from the beginning, that you should go on walking in it. (**2 John 1:6**)**



- Also, the truthfulness and rightness of the message given through God's servants persuades the hearers to obey, and hence the apostle Peter speaks of **obedience** to the truth with unhypocritical brotherly affection as the result.
- Now that you have purified your souls by your **obedience** to the truth with unhypocritical brotherly affection as the result, love one another intensely from the heart. (**1 Peter 1:22**)
- However, for those who are contentious and who **disobey** the truth but obey unrighteousness there will be wrath and anger. (**Romans 2:8**)
- Tribulation and distress, upon the soul of every man who works what is injurious, of the Jew first and also of the Greek. (**Romans 2:9**)
- You were running well. Who hindered you from keeping on obeying the truth? (**Galatians 5:7**)
- This sort of persuasion is not from the One calling you. (**Galatians 5:8**)
- Yehowah showed great patience with Israel and speaks of himself as daily getting up early and sending his prophets to exhort and admonish them, all day long spreading out his hands toward a people that is disobedient and talks back, but they **continued to harden their hearts like emery stone, stubbornly refusing discipline.**
- But this word I did express in command upon them, saying; **Obey** my voice, and I will become your God, and you yourselves will become my people, and you must walk in all the way that I shall command you, in order, that it may go well with you. (**Jeremiah 7:23**)
- But they did not listen, neither did they incline their ear, but they went walking in the counsels in the stubbornness of their bad heart, so that they became backward in direction and not forward. (**Jeremiah 7:24**)
- From the day that your forefathers came forth out of the land of Egypt until this day, and I kept sending to you all my servants the prophets, daily getting up early and sending them. (**Jeremiah**

**7:25)**

- **But they did not listen to me, and they did not incline their ear, but they kept hardening their neck. They acted worse than their forefathers! (Jeremiah 7:26)**
- **And you must speak to them all these words, but they will not listen to you, and you must call to them, but they will not answer you. (Jeremiah 7:27)**
- **And you must say to them; This is the nation whose people have not obeyed the voice of Yehowah its God, and have not taken discipline. Faithfulness has perished, and it has been cut off from their mouth. (Jeremiah 7:28)**
- **For I solemnly admonished your forefathers in the day of my bringing them up out of the land of Egypt and down to this day, rising up early and admonishing, saying; Obey my voice. (Jeremiah 11:7)**
- **But they did not listen or incline their ear, but they kept walking each one in the stubbornness of their bad heart, and so I brought upon them all the words of this covenant that I commanded them to do, but that they did not do. (Jeremiah 11:8)**
- **And their heart they set as an emery stone to keep from obeying the Law and the words that Yehowah of armies sent by his spirit, by means of the former prophets, so that there occurred great indignation on the part of Yehowah of armies. (Zechariah 7:12)**
- **But as respects Israel he says; All day long I have spread out my hands toward a people that is disobedient and talks back. (Romans 10:21)**
- **Even after the coming of Messiah, they endeavored to establish their righteousness in their own way, by works of the Law. Their lack of faith and **obedience** to God's instructions through his Son cost the majority of them a place in the Kingdom government, opening the way for many non-Jews to become part of the chosen nation of Spiritual Israel.**
- **Brothers, the goodwill of my heart and my supplication to God for them are, indeed, for their salvation. (Romans 10:1)**

- For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to accurate knowledge. (**Romans 10:2**)
- For, because of not knowing the righteousness of God but seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. (**Romans 10:3**)
- For Christ is the end of the Law, so that everyone exercising faith may have righteousness. (**Romans 10:4**)
- Now I speak to you who are people of the nations. Forasmuch as I am, in reality, an apostle to the nations, I glorify my ministry. (**Romans 11:13**)
- If I may by any means incite those who are my own flesh to jealousy and save some from among them. (**Romans 11:14**)
- For if the casting of them away means reconciliation for the world, what will the receiving of them mean but life from the dead? (**Romans 11:15**)
- Further, if the part taken as firstfruits is holy, the lump is also, and if the root is holy, the branches are also. (**Romans 11:16**)
- However, if some of the branches were broken off but you, although being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became a sharer of the olives root of fatness. (**Romans 11:17**)
- Do not be exulting over the branches. If, though, you are exulting over them, it is not you that bear the root, but the root bears you. (**Romans 11:18**)
- You will say, then; Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in. (**Romans 11:19**)
- All right! For their lack of faith they were broken off, but you are standing by faith. Quit having lofty ideas, but be in fear. (**Romans 11:20**)
- For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. (**Romans 11:21**)
- See, therefore, God's kindness and severity. Toward those who fell there is severity, but toward you there is God's kindness,

- provided you remain in his kindness, otherwise, you also will be lopped off. (**Romans 11:22**)
- They also, if they do not remain in their lack of faith, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. (**Romans 11:23**)
  - For just as you were once disobedient to God but have now been shown mercy because of their **disobedience**. (**Romans 11:30**)
  - So also these now have been **disobedient** with mercy resulting to you, that they themselves also may now be shown mercy. (**Romans 11:31**)
  - For God has shut them all up together in **disobedience**, that he might show all of them mercy. (**Romans 11:32**)
  - A healthy fear of God also plays its part in **obedience**, because one recognizes God's all-powerfulness and that God is not to be trifled with nor can he be mocked, for he renders to each one according to that one's deeds.
  - Consequently, my beloved ones, in the way that you have always obeyed, not during my presence only, but now much more readily during my absence, keep working out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (**Philippians 2:12**)
  - For God is the one that, for the sake of his good pleasure, is acting within you in order for you both to will and to act. (**Philippians 2:13**)
  - Do not be misled: God is not one to be mocked. For whatever a man is sowing, this he will also reap. (**Galatians 6:7**)
  - Because he who is sowing with a view to his flesh will reap corruption from his flesh, but he who is sowing with a view to the spirit will reap everlasting life from the spirit. (**Galatians 6:8**)
  - In the days of his flesh Christ offered up supplications and also petitions to the One who was able to save him out of death, with strong outcries and tears, and he was favorably heard for his godly fear. (**Hebrews 5:7**)
  - Willful **disobedience** or disregard for God's revealed will brings a certain fearful expectation of judgment.

- For if we practice sin willfully after having received the accurate knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice for sins left. (**Hebrews 10:26**)
- But there is a certain fearful expectation of judgment and there is a fiery jealousy that is going to consume those in opposition. (**Hebrews 10:27**)
- Any man that has disregarded the Law of Moses dies without compassion, upon the testimony of two or three. (**Hebrews 10:28**)
- Of how much more severe a punishment, do you think, will the man be counted worthy who has trampled upon the Son of God and who has esteemed as of ordinary value the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and who has outraged the spirit of undeserved kindness with contempt? (**Hebrews 10:29**)
- For we know him that said; Vengeance is mine. I will recompense. And again; Yehowah will judge his people. (**Hebrews 10:30**)
- It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (**Hebrews 10:31**)
- The Scriptures set forth many encouraging examples of faithful **obedience** in all manner of circumstances and situations and in the face of all types of opposition. Supreme among these is the example of God's own Son, who humbled himself and became obedient as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake.
- More than that, when he found himself in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became **obedient** as far as death, yes, death on a torture stake. (**Philippians 2:8**)
- Although he was a Son, he learned **obedience** from the things he suffered. (**Hebrews 5:8**)
- By his **obedient** course he was justified, proved righteous on his own merit, and hence could provide a perfect sacrifice that would redeem mankind from sin and death.
- So, then, as through one trespass the result to men of all sorts

was condemnation, likewise also through one act of justification the result to men of all sorts is a declaring of them righteous for life. (**Romans 5:18**)

- For just as through the **disobedience** of the one man many were constituted sinners, likewise also through the **obedience** of the one person many will be constituted righteous. (**Romans 5:19**)
- Now the Law came in beside in order, that trespassing might abound. But where sin abounded, undeserved kindness abounded still more. (**Romans 5:20**)
- To what end? That, just as sin ruled as king with death, likewise also undeserved kindness might rule as king through righteousness with everlasting life in view through Jesus Christ our Lord. (**Romans 5:21**)

## •• **Obedience To Other Superiors**

- **The Sons position as God's appointed King requires that all others **obey** him.**
- I kept on beholding in the visions of the night, and, see there! with the clouds of the heavens someone like a son of man happened to be coming, and to the Ancient of Days he gained access, and they brought him up close even before that One. (**Daniel 7:13**)
- And to him there were given rulership and dignity and kingdom, that the peoples, national groups and languages should **all serve** even him. His rulership is an indefinitely lasting rulership that will not pass away, and his kingdom one that will not be brought to ruin. (**Daniel 7:14**)
- He is **Shiloh** of the tribe of Judah, the one to whom the **obedience** of the people belongs.
- The scepter will not turn aside from Judah, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the **obedience** of the peoples will belong. (**Genesis 49:10**)
- The prophet like Moses to whom every soul must listen or suffer destruction.

- In fact, Moses said; Yehowah God will raise up for you from among your brothers a prophet like me. You must **listen** to him according to all the things he speaks to you. (**Acts of Apostles 3:22**)
- Indeed, any soul that does not **listen to that Prophet** will be completely destroyed from among the people. (**Acts of Apostles 3:23**)
- **A leader and commander to the national groups;**
- Incline your ear and come to me. Listen, and your soul will keep alive, and I shall readily conclude with you people an indefinitely lasting covenant respecting the loving-kindnesses to David that are faithful. (**Isaiah 55:3**)
- Look! As a witness to the national groups I have given him, as a **leader and commander to the national groups**. (**Isaiah 55:4**)
- **Placed far above every government and authority and power and lordship.**
- With which he has operated in the case of the Christ when he raised him up from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places. (**Ephesians 1:20**)
- Far above every government and authority and power and lordship and every name named, not only in this system of things, but also in that to come. (**Ephesians 1:21**)
- **To whom every knee should bend in recognition of his God-given authority.**
- For this very reason also God exalted him to a superior position and kindly gave him the name that is above every other name. (**Philippians 2:9**)
- So that in the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven and those on earth and those under the ground. (**Philippians 2:10**)
- And every tongue should openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (**Philippians 2:11**)

- **He is the High Priest whose instructions lead to healing and life everlasting for those hearing him submissively.**
- **And after he had been made perfect he became responsible for everlasting salvation to all those **obeying** him. (Hebrews 5:9)**
- **Because he has been specifically called by God a High Priest according to the manner of Melchizedek. (Hebrews 5:10)**
- **He that exercises faith in the Son has everlasting life, he that **disobeys** the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains upon him. (John 3:36)**
- **Since he was God's Chief Spokesman, Jesus could rightly make known that **obedience** to his sayings constituted the only solid foundation on which persons could build their hopes for the future.**
- **Therefore everyone that hears these sayings of mine and does them will be likened to a discreet man, who built his house upon the rock-mass. (Matthew 7:24)**
- **And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and lashed against that house, but it did not cave in, for it had been founded upon the rock-mass. (Matthew 7:25)**
- **Furthermore, everyone hearing these sayings of mine and not doing them will be likened to a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand. (Matthew 7:26)**
- **And the rain poured down and the floods came and the winds blew and struck against that house and it caved in, and its collapse was great. (Matthew 7:27)**
- ****Obedience** is proof of and springs from the love his followers have for him.**
- **In answer Jesus said to him; If anyone loves me, he will observe my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our abode with him. (John 14:23)**
- **He that does not love me does not **observe** my words, and the word that you are hearing is not mine, but belongs to the Father who sent me. (John 14:24)**



- If you **observe** my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have **observed** the commandments of the Father and remain in his love. (**John 15:10**)
- Because God has made his Son the key figure in the outworking of all his purposes.
- Now to him who can make you firm in accord with the Good News I declare and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the sacred secret which has been kept in silence for long-lasting times. (**Romans 16:25**)
- But has now been made manifest and has been made known through the prophetic scriptures among all the nations in accord with the command of the everlasting God to promote **obedience** by faith. (**Romans 16:26**)
- To God, wise alone, be the glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen. (**Romans 16:27**)
- Life depends upon **obedience** to the Good News about our Lord Jesus, and this **obedience** includes **making public declaration of ones faith in him.**
- In a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the Good News about our Lord Jesus. (**2 Thessalonians 1:8**)
- But what does it say? The word is near you, in your own mouth and in your own heart, that is, the word of faith, which we are preaching. (**Romans 10:8**)
- For if you publicly declare that **word in your own mouth**, that Jesus is Lord, and exercise faith in your heart that God raised him up from the dead, you will be saved. (**Romans 10:9**)
- For with the heart one exercises faith for righteousness, but with the **mouth one makes public declaration for salvation.** (**Romans 10:10**)
- Nevertheless, they did not all obey the Good News. For Isaiah says: Yehowah, who put faith in the thing heard from us? (**Romans 10:16**)

- For it is the appointed time for the judgment to start with the house of God. Now if it starts first with us, what will the end be of those who are not obedient to the Good News of God? (**1 Peter 4:17**)
- As head of the Christian congregation, Christ Jesus delegates authority to others, as he did to the apostles.
- For even if I should boast a bit too much about the authority that the Lord gave us to build you up and not to tear you down, I would not be put to shame. (**2 Corinthians 10:8**)
- These persons convey the instructions of the congregations Head, and therefore **obedience** to them is right and necessary.
- Indeed I beg that, when present, I may not use boldness with that confidence with which I am counting on taking bold measures against some who appraise us as if we walked according to what we are in the flesh. (**2 Corinthians 10:2**)
- For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage warfare according to what we are in the flesh. (**2 Corinthians 10:3**)
- For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but powerful by God for overturning strongly entrenched things. (**2 Corinthians 10:4**)
- For we are overturning reasonings and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are bringing every thought into captivity to make it obedient to the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 10:5**)
- And we are holding ourselves in readiness to inflict punishment for every **disobedience**, as soon as your own obedience has been fully carried out. (**2 Corinthians 10:6**)
- Consequently, my beloved ones, in the way that you have always obeyed, not during my presence only, but now much more readily during my absence, keep working out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (**Philippians 2:12**)
- Moreover, we have confidence in the Lord regarding you, that you are doing and will go on doing the things we order. (**2 Thessalonians 3:4**)

- **Not that we do not have authority, but in order, that we might offer ourselves as an example to you to imitate us. (2 Thessalonians 3:9)**
- **In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order; If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)**
- **For we hear certain ones are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (2 Thessalonians 3:11)**
- **To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (2 Thessalonians 3:12)**
- **For your part, brothers, do not give up in doing right. (2 Thessalonians 3:13)**
- **But if anyone is not obedient to our word through this letter, keep this one marked, stop associating with him, that he may become ashamed. (2 Thessalonians 3:14)**
- **And yet do not be considering him as an enemy, but continue admonishing him as a brother. (2 Thessalonians 3:15)**
- **For such spiritual shepherds are keeping watch over your souls as those who will render an account.**
- **Be obedient to those who are taking the lead among you and be submissive, for they are keeping watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not with sighing, for this would be damaging to you. (Hebrews 13:17)**
- **Shepherd the flock of God in your care, not under compulsion, but willingly, neither for love of dishonest gain, but eagerly. (1 Peter 5:2)**
- **Neither as lording it over those who are God's inheritance, but becoming examples to the flock. (1 Peter 5:3)**
- **And when the chief shepherd has been made manifest, you will**

receive the unfadable crown of glory. (1 Peter 5:4)

- In like manner, you younger men, be in subjection to the older men. But all of you gird yourselves with lowliness of mind toward one another, because God opposes the haughty ones, but he gives undeserved kindness to the humble ones. (1 Peter 5:5)
- Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. (1 Peter 5:6)
- And you must give to your servant an obedient heart to judge your people, to discern between good and bad, for who is able to judge this difficult people of yours? (1 Kings 3:9)
- Willing response and **obedience**, like that of the Roman and Philippian Christians and like that of Philemon, to whom Paul could say; I am writing you, knowing you will even do more than the things I say; bring rejoicing to such responsible ones.
- For your **obedience** has come to the notice of all. I therefore rejoice over you. But I want you to be wise as to what is good, but innocent as to what is evil. (Romans 16:19)
- Consequently, my beloved ones, in the way that you have always obeyed, not during my presence only, but now much more readily during my absence, keep working out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Philippians 2:12)
- Notwithstanding, even if I am being poured out like a drink offering upon the sacrifice and public service to which faith has led you, I am glad and I rejoice with all of you. (Philippians 2:17)
- Trusting in your compliance, I am writing you, knowing you will even do more than the things I say. (Philemon 1:21)

#### ·· Obedience To Parents And Husbands

- Parents have a God-given natural right to the **obedience** of their children.
- Listen to your father who caused your birth, and do not despise your mother just because she has grown old. (Proverbs 23:22)

- Jacob's **obedience** to his parents was doubtless one of the reasons Yehowah loved Jacob but hated Esau.
- I have loved you people, Yehowah has said. And you have said; In what way have you loved us? Was not Esau the brother of Jacob? Is the utterance of Yehowah. But I loved Jacob. (**Malachi 1:2**)
- And Esau I have hated, and I finally made his mountains a desolated waste and his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness. (**Malachi 1:3**)
- And that Jacob was **obeying** his father and his mother and was on his way to Paddanaram. (**Genesis 28:7**)
- As a child, Jesus showed **submission** to his earthly parents.
- And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and he continued subject to them. Also, his mother carefully kept all these sayings in her heart. (**Luke 2:51**)
- The apostle Paul admonishes children to be **obedient** to your parents in everything. It must be remembered that his letter was addressed to Christians, and hence everything cannot allow for **obedience** to commands that would result in **disobedience** to the word of the heavenly Father, Yehowah God, for this could not be well-pleasing to the Lord.
- You children, be **obedient** to your parents in everything, for this is well-pleasing in the Lord. (**Colossians 3:20**)
- Children, be **obedient** to your parents in union with the Lord, for this is righteous. (**Ephesians 6:1**)
- **Disobedience** to parents is not viewed lightly in the Scriptures, and under the Law a continued course of **disobedience** required the sons being put to death.
- In case a man happens to have a son who is stubborn and rebellious, he not listening to the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and they have corrected him but he will not listen to them. (**Deuteronomy 21:18**)
- His father and his mother must also take hold of him and bring

him out to the older men of his city and to the gate of his place. **(Deuteronomy 21:19)**

- **And they must say to the older men of his city; This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he is not listening to our voice, being a glutton and a drunkard. (Deuteronomy 21:20)**
- **Then all the men of his city must pelt him with stones, and he must die. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst, and all Israel will hear and indeed become afraid. (Deuteronomy 21:21)**
- **The eye that holds a father in derision and that despises **obedience** to a mother, the ravens of the torrent valley will pick it out and the sons of the eagle will eat it up. (Proverbs 30:17)**
- **Backbiters, haters of God, insolent, haughty, self-assuming, inventors of injurious things, **disobedient** to parents. (Romans 1:30)**
- **Although these know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death, they not only keep on doing them but also consent with those practicing them. (Romans 1:32)**
- **For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, self-assuming, haughty, blasphemers, **disobedient** to parents, unthankful, disloyal. (2 Timothy 3:2)**
- **The headship of the man also calls for **obedience** of wives to their husbands in everything, Sarah being cited as an example to be emulated.**
- **Be in subjection to one another in fear of Christ. (Ephesians 5:21)**
- **Let wives be in subjection to their husbands as to the Lord. (Ephesians 5:22)**
- **Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. (Ephesians 5:23)**
- **In fact, as the congregation is in subjection to the Christ, so let wives also be to their husbands in everything. (Ephesians 5:24)**

- **Husbands, continue loving your wives, just as the Christ also loved the congregation and delivered up himself for it. (Ephesians 5:25)**
- **That he might sanctify it, cleansing it with the bath of water by means of the word. (Ephesians 5:26)**
- **That he might present the congregation to himself in its splendor, not having a spot or a wrinkle or any of such things, but that it should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:27)**
- **In this way husbands ought to be loving their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. (Ephesians 5:28)**
- **For no man ever hated his own flesh, but he feeds and cherishes it, as the Christ also does the congregation. (Ephesians 5:29)**
- **Because we are members of his body. (Ephesians 5:30)**
- **For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and he will stick to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. (Ephesians 5:31)**
- **This sacred secret is great. Now I am speaking with respect to Christ and the congregation. (Ephesians 5:32)**
- **Nevertheless, also, let each one of you individually so love his wife as he does himself, on the other hand, the wife should have deep respect for her husband. (Ephesians 5:33)**
- **In like manner, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, in order, that, if any are not obedient to the word, they may be won without a word through the conduct of their wives. (1 Peter 3:1)**
- **Because of having been eyewitnesses of your chaste conduct together with deep respect. (1 Peter 3:2)**
- **And do not let your adornment be that of the external braiding of the hair and of the putting on of gold ornaments or the wearing of outer garments. (1 Peter 3:3)**
- **But let it be the secret person of the heart in the incorruptible**

apparel of the quiet and mild spirit, which is of great value in the eyes of God. (1 Peter 3:4)

- For so, too, formerly the holy women who were hoping in God used to adorn themselves, subjecting themselves to their own husbands. (1 Peter 3:5)
- As Sarah used to obey Abraham, calling him lord. And you have become her children, provided you keep on doing good and not fearing any cause for terror. (1 Peter 3:6)
- Here, again, it holds true that the headship and authority of the husband is not supreme, but ranks below that of God and Christ.
- But I want you to know that the head of every man is the Christ, in turn the head of a woman is the man, in turn the head of the Christ is God. (1 Corinthians 11:3)

#### •• To Masters And To Governments

- Similarly slaves were exhorted to render **obedience** to their masters in everything, not with eye-service but as Christ's slaves, with fear of Yehowah.
- You slaves, be obedient in everything to those who are your masters in a fleshly sense, not with acts of eye-service, as men pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, with fear of Yehowah. (Colossians 3:22)
- Whatever you are doing, work at it whole-souled as to Yehowah, and not to men. (Colossians 3:23)
- For you know that it is from Yehowah you will receive the due reward of the inheritance. Slave for the Master, Christ. (Colossians 3:24)
- Certainly the one that is doing wrong will receive back what he wrongly did, and there is no partiality. (Colossians 3:25)
- You slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters in a fleshly sense, with fear and trembling in the sincerity of your hearts, as to the Christ. (Ephesians 6:5)
- Not by way of eye-service as men pleasers, but as Christ's slaves,



doing the will of God whole-souled. (**Ephesians 6:6**)

- **Be slaves with good inclinations, as to Yehowah, and not to men. (Ephesians 6:7)**
- **For you know that each one, whatever good he may do, will receive this back from Yehowah, whether he be slave or freeman. (Ephesians 6:8)**
- **Those slaves who must endure suffering could take as their example Christ Jesus, even as could Christian wives under similar circumstances.**
- **Let house servants be in **subjection** to their owners with all due fear, not only to the good and reasonable, but also to those hard to please. (1 Peter 2:18)**
- **For if someone, because of conscience toward God, bears up under grievous things and suffers unjustly, this is an agreeable thing. (1 Peter 2:19)**
- **For what merit is there in it if, when you are sinning and being slapped, you endure it? But if, when you are doing good and you suffer, you endure it, this is a thing agreeable with God. (1 Peter 2:20)**
- **In fact, to this course you were called, because even Christ suffered for you, leaving you a model for you to follow his steps closely. (1 Peter 2:21)**
- **He committed no sin, nor was deception found in his mouth. (1 Peter 2:22)**
- **When he was being reviled, he did not go reviling in return. When he was suffering, he did not go threatening, but kept on committing himself to the one who judges righteously. (1 Peter 2:23)**
- **He himself bore our sins in his own body upon the stake, in order, that we might be done with sins and live to righteousness. And by his stripes you were healed. (1 Peter 2:24)**
- **For you were like sheep, going astray, but now you have returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls. (1 Peter**

2:25)

- In like manner, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, in order, that, if any are not obedient to the word, they may be won without a word through the conduct of their wives. (1 Peter 3:1)
- The authority of their masters was relative, not absolute, hence Christian slaves would **obey** in everything that was not in conflict with God's will and commands.
- Finally, **obedience** is due earthly governments, authorities, and rulers
- Continue reminding them to be in **subjection** and be obedient to governments and authorities as rulers, to be ready for every good work. (Titus 3:1)
- Since God has allowed them to function and even to render certain services to his people. So it is required that Christians pay back Caesars things to Caesar.
- On arrival these said to him; Teacher, we know you are truthful and you do not care for anybody, for you do not look upon mens outward appearance, but you teach the way of God in line with truth: Is it lawful to pay head tax to Caesar or not? (Mark 12:14)
- Shall we pay, or shall we not pay? Detecting their hypocrisy, he said to them; Why do you put me to the test? Bring me a denarius to look at. (Mark 12:15)
- They brought one. And he said to them; Whose image and inscription is this? They said to him; Caesar's. (Mark 12:16)
- Jesus then said; Pay back Caesar's things to Caesar, but God's things to God. And they began to marvel at him. (Mark 12:17)
- The compelling reason for Christian **obedience** to Caesar's laws and the payment of taxes is not primarily proper fear of Caesar's sword of punishment but is the Christian conscience.
- Let every soul be in subjection to the superior authorities, for there is no authority except by God, the existing authorities stand placed in their relative positions by God. (Romans 13:1)

- **Therefore he who opposes the authority has taken a stand against the arrangement of God, those who have taken a stand against it will receive judgment to themselves. (Romans 13:2)**
- **For those ruling are an object of fear, not to the good deed, but to the bad. Do you, then, want to have no fear of the authority? Keep doing good, and you will have praise from it. (Romans 13:3)**
- **For it is God's minister to you for your good. But if you are doing what is bad, be in fear. For it is not without purpose that it bears the sword. For it is God's minister, an avenger to express wrath upon the one practicing what is bad. (Romans 13:4)**
- **There is therefore compelling reason for you people to be in subjection, not only on account of that wrath but also on account of your conscience. (Romans 13:5)**
- **For that is why you are also paying taxes, for they are God's public servants constantly serving this very purpose. (Romans 13:6)**
- **Render to all their dues, to him who calls for the tax, the tax. To him who calls for the tribute, the tribute. To him who calls for fear, such fear. To him who calls for honor, such honor. (Romans 13:7)**
- **Since conscience is the decisive factor, Christian **submission** to human governments obviously is limited to those things not out of harmony with God's Law.**
- **For this reason, to rulers who ordered them to stop carrying out their God-given commission to preach, the apostles firmly stated; We must obey God as ruler rather than men.**
- **So they brought them and stood them in the Sanhedrin hall. And the High Priest questioned them. (Acts of Apostles 5:27)**
- **And said; We positively ordered you not to keep teaching upon the basis of this name, and yet, look! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring the blood of this man upon us. (Acts of Apostles 5:28)**
- **In answer Peter and the other apostles said; We must obey God**

as ruler rather than men. (**Acts of Apostles 5:29**)

- **And we are witnesses of these matters, and so is the Holy Spirit, which God has given to those obeying him as ruler. (**Acts of Apostles 5:32**)**
- **With that they called them and charged them, nowhere to make any utterance or to teach upon the basis of the name of Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:18**)**
- **But in reply Peter and John said to them; Whether it is righteous in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. (**Acts of Apostles 4:19**)**
- **But as for us, we cannot stop speaking about the things we have seen and heard. (**Acts of Apostles 4:20**)**