

WHEN WE OBEY

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:19b NIV

Introduction

The question of obedience to God's will has been the question on which the ultimate success of every human being hinges. God has revealed His will, and given us His commandments because He desires the very best for us. Obedience becomes the very key to having a successful, fulfilling life.

I. The destructive power of disobedience

1 Samuel 15:22b-23 NIV To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. For rebellion is like the sin of divination (witchcraft), and arrogance (stubbornness) is like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.

- A. Disobedience damages God's kingdom
- B. Disobedience damages our lives
- C. Disobedience destroys our future

II. The saving power of obedience

Joshua 1:8 NIV Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

1 John 2:17 NIV The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

- A. Obedience places the responsibility for our success on Him
- B. Obedience allows His power to flow through us
- C. Obedience brings His grace to our life

III. The power of responsibility to His will

Matthew 7:21-23 NIV Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me you evildoers!'

Genesis 6:22 NIV Noah did everything just as God commanded Him.

A. How to know His will

Deuteronomy 4:29 NIV But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul.

B. Doing His will gives an abundant entrance to eternal life