



12 - 18 Jan, 2020

Obedience, part 1

**‘Jesus said to them,
‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me,
and to finish His work’ John 4:34**

The obedience of Christ

- † **Jesus Christ did the Father’s will in word and action**
 - ***‘The word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s Who sent Me’ Jn 14:24b***
 - ***‘I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things’ Jn 8:28***
 - ***‘I have finished the work which You have given Me to do’ Jn 17:4***
- † **In prayer He said, ‘Your Kingdom come. Your will be done’ Mt 6:10**

Christ’s obedience to the Father sprouted out of His love to Him

- † ***‘It would have been evil and cruel if the Father had preordained Jesus’ death against His will. No, the Father only allowed Jesus to go to His passion in so far as He inspired Him with the wish to suffer for us: that is, by infusing love into Him. The Father did not force Jesus against His will’ Saint Thomas Aquinas***

Christ’s obedience to the Father yields to give all glory to the Father

‘If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I’ Jn 14:28b

Our obedience to God is the measure of our surrender to Him

(Lk 5:1-11)

- † **In his book, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, John Climacus highlights obedience as the fourth step following Renunciation, Detachment and Exile as in ‘The break with the world’**
- † **True obedience, like true love, cannot be forced, it must be free**
- † **Obedience, love and humility go hand in hand**

Our love to Christ is revealed through our obedience to Him (Gen 6; Dan 3:16-18)

- † *'If you love Me, keep My commandments' Jn 14:15*
- † *'He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me' Jn 14:21*
- † **Our obedience is the fruit of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ knowing that He is our all in all**

Bibliography

1. **The Ladder of Divine Ascent, by John Climacus, (New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1982)**
2. **Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version**

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves'
James 1:22

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

- † **Christ, Who through Him all things were made, obeyed the Father until death on the Cross**

My reaction

- † **Am I ready to obey Him and choose the way with no compromise?**
- † **Am I ready to walk hand in hand with Christ leading others to the glory of obedience?**

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

- 1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon**
- 2. for CrossTalk to find a locale**
- 3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim**
- 4. to become more of saints and less of sinners**
- 5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think**
- 6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth**
- 7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him**
- 8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor**
- 9. to all the sick**
- 10. to all those in prison**
- 11. to the unity of the Christians**
- 12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity**
- 13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management**
- 14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them**
- 15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights**
- 16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region**

During this coming week, we will lift the Protestant Church in prayer

الصلاة الربانية

أبانا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَوَاتِ
لِيَتَقَدَّسَ إِسْمُكَ
لِيَأْتِ مَلَكُوتُكَ
لِتَكُنْ مَشِيئَتُكَ
كَمَا فِي السَّمَاءِ
كَذَلِكَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ
خُبِّرْنَا كِفَافَنَا أَعْطِنَا الْيَوْمَ
وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا
كَمَا نَعْفِرُ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا
لِلْمُذْنِبِينَ إِلَيْنَا
وَلَا تُدْخِلْنَا فِي تَجْرِبَةٍ
لَكُنْ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّرِّيرِ
لَأَنَّ لَكَ الْمَلِكَ وَالْقُوَّةَ وَالْمَجْدَ
إِلَى الْأَبَدِ
أَمِينَ

قانون الايمان

نحن نُؤْمِنُ بِإِلَهِ وَاحِدٍ
أَبٍ قَادِرٍ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ
خَالِقِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ
وَكُلِّ مَا يُرَى وَمَا لَا يُرَى
وَبِرَبِّ وَاحِدٍ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ، ابْنَ اللَّهِ الْوَحِيدِ
الْمَوْلُودِ مِنَ الْآبِ قَبْلَ كُلِّ الدَّهْرِ
إِلَهُ مِنْ إِلَهُ، نُورٌ مِنْ نُورٍ، إِلَهُ حَقٌّ مِنْ إِلَهُ حَقٍّ
مَوْلُودٍ غَيْرِ مَخْلُوقٍ، ذُو جَوْهَرٍ وَاحِدٍ مَعَ الْآبِ
هُوَ الَّذِي بِهِ كَانَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ
الَّذِي مِنْ أَجْلِنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا
نَزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ
وَتَجَسَّدَ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ مِنْ مَرْيَمَ الْعَذْرَاءِ
وَصَارَ إِنْسَانًا
وَصُلِبَ عَنَّا عَلَى عَهْدِ بِيلاطُسَ الْبَنْطِي
وَتَأَلَّمَ وَقُبِّرَ
وَقَامَ أَيْضًا فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ حَسَبَ الْكُتُبِ
وَصَعِدَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ جَالِسٌ عَنِ يَمِينِ الْآبِ
وَسَيَأْتِي أَيْضًا بِمَجْدٍ لِيُدِينَ الْأَحْيَاءَ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ
الَّذِي لَيْسَ لِمَلِكِهِ نِهَايَةٌ
وَنُؤْمِنُ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ
الرَّبِّ الْمُحْيِي، الْمُنْبِثِ مِنَ الْآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ
الْمَسْجُودِ لَهُ وَالْمُجَدِّ مَعَ الْآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ
الَّذِي تَكَلَّمَ بِالْأَنْبِيَاءِ
وَنَعْتَقِدُ بِكَنِيسَةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ، مَقَدَّسَةٍ، جَامِعَةٍ، رَسُولِيَّةٍ
وَنَعْتَرِفُ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ لِمَغْفِرَةِ الْخَطَايَا
وَنَنْتَظِرُ قِيَامَةَ الْمَوْتَى وَحَيَاةَ الدَّهْرِ الْآتِي
أَمِينَ