



19 - 25 Jan, 2020

Obedience, part 2

**‘Now it shall come to pass,
if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God,
to observe carefully all His commandments
which I command you today, that the Lord your God
will set you high above all nations of the earth.**

**And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake
you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God’ Dt 28:1-2**

The power of obedience to God

- † ***‘For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also
by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous’ Rom 5:19***
- † ***‘Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the Kingdom
of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven’ Mt 7:21***

Obedience yields to life in abundance (Dt 28)

- † ***‘There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which
cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the
Creator, made known through Jesus Christ’ Blaise Pascal***
- † **Out of obedience and against all human logic, Peter launched out
into the deep**
- † **Their net was breaking because of the abundance of their catch at
a time when they have toiled all night and caught nothing**

Our obedience is our faith put into action (Mt 21:28-32)

- † **The obedient child is the one who freely decides to do God’s will**
- † **Obedience, born out of love, is the key to becoming like Christ**
- † ***‘For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And
His commandments are not burdensome’ 1 Jn 5:3***
- † ***‘By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place
which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not
knowing where he was going’ Heb 11:8***

† *'To have faith in Christ means, of course, trying to do all that He says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice' C S Lewis*

The glory of obedience to Christ (Jgs 6:1-2, 7, 11-16, 36-40; 7: 2-)

† *'Obedience is the key that opens every door' C S Lewis*

† *'Obedience is the road to freedom' C S Lewis*

† *'If you ask why we should obey God, in the last resort the answer is, 'I am' C S Lewis*

† *'Love and obedience are better than miracles' Saint John Chrysostom*

† *'Obedience is necessary not only for monks, but for all people. Even the Lord was obedient. The proud and self-regarding do not allow grace to live in them, and therefore they never have spiritual peace, while in the obedient soul the grace of the Holy Spirit enters easily and gives joy and peace' Saint Silouan the Athonite*

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

'Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him' John 14:23

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

† Christ obeyed the Father in every word He said and in every act He did

My reaction

† Am I ready to obey Christ in my actions trusting Him?

† Do I believe that my actions, when done in obedience to the Christ, will lead others to Him?

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 unity of the Church in prayer

قانون الايمان
نؤمن بالله واحد
الآب ضابط الكل،
خالق السماء والأرض
كل ما يرى وما لا يرى
وبرب واحد يسوع المسيح،
ابن الله الوحيد
المولود من الآب قبل كل الدهور،
نور من نور
إله حق من إله حق،
مولود غير مخلوق
له الجوهر نفسه مع الآب،
الذي به كان شيء
ذاك الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر
ومن أجل خلاصنا،
نزل من السموات
وتجسد متأسساً بالروح القدس
من مريم العذراء
وصلب عنا في عهد بيلاطس بنطيبوس
وتألم وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث
كما في الكتب
وصعد إلى السموات
وجلس عن يمين الآب
ويجيء بمجد
ليدين الأحياء والأموات ولن يكون لملكه
نهاية
وبالروح القدس،
الرب المحيي،
المنبثق من الآب
المنبثق من الآب،
المسجود له والممجّد مع الآب والإبن
الناطق بالأنبياء
وبكنيسة واحدة مقدّسة، جامعة، رسولية
ونعترف بعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا
وننتظر قيامة الموتى وحياء الدهر الآتي
أمين