

One of the most important factors influencing our spiritual life, is obedience. Disobedience can cost us dearly. The Lord expects absolute obedience from us and He even expects obedience from the winds and the sea. He also expects all the nations to obey Him: Gen. 49:10 ...until he comes ... and the obedience of the nations is his.

Through disobedience the following people suffered great harm:

- **Adam and Eve** : Gen. 3:17 Because you listened to your wife (and not my command) ...Cursed is the ground because of you.
- **Saul** : 1 Sam. 15:23 Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.
- **Disobedient prophet** : 1 Kings 13:21 You have defied the word of the Lord... You came back and ate bread... Therefore your body will not be buried in the tomb of your fathers... a lion met him on the road and killed him.
- **Israel** : Jos. 5:6 ... they had not obeyed the Lord. For the Lord had sworn to them that they would not see the land that he had solemnly promised their fathers to give us...

To listen to the voice of the Lord brings about many blessings.

- **Abraham** : Gen. 26:4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws.
- **Paul** says in Acts 26:19, So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven – and look at the glorious consequences.
- **Ourselves**: Hebr. 5:9 And, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obeyed him.
- Acts 5:32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.

To whom we must be obedient :

- 1 Peter 3:6 Wives, be submissive to your husbands, like Sarah who obeyed Abraham.

- Hebr. 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you.
- Titus 3:1 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities.
- We as servants have to obey to our earthly masters Col. 3:22 – and we are all servants.
- We must obey our parents. Col. 3:20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.
- Gal. 3:1 We have to obey the truth.
- Acts 5:29 We must obey God rather than men.
- We must obey the gospel. 2 Thes. 1:8 He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.
- We must follow the example of the Lord Jesus who was obedient unto death. Phil. 2:8 .. He humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! – Are we prepared to humble ourselves through being obedient?
- We especially have to be obedient to the Holy Spirit (unto death) otherwise we resist and grieve the Holy Spirit and eventually he abandons us and we hasten our way to damnation.