What Constitutes Obedience?

Greg Kline · 2 Kings 5:1–14 · Series: **Obedience**

INTRODUCTION

- In Hebrews chapter 3 and verse 12, he encouraged them not to fall away. That implies they were once with. You can't fall from somewhere you are not.
- As Christians, we have a calling to stay with God. In fact, more than that, we have a purpose to live for him, to glorify that God.
- 2 Kings chapter 5 reveals to us something important. And it's that sometimes we allow our minds to keep us from the simple call of God.

1 He Simply Didn't Want To: Disagreeing With the Command

2 Kings 5:11; 1 John 2:15–17; Acts 2:38

- The first one, it's very clear from verse 11, is that he simply didn't want to. He disagreed with the command.
- The thought process was he's going to do it just in this way that I imagined. Do we sometimes struggle with that with God?
- To think that we know better or that God somehow messed up in his commandment to us?
- Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ. For the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- We need to make sure that we do what God says, whether it makes sense to us or not, because we should study the mind of God and know that his ways are higher than our ways.

2 Distracted From the Truth

John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6

- Naaman was so focused on being cured that he was distracted from actually being cured.
- He was caught up in the how, not the what. Let's concentrate on the what, not the how. The how will come if we accept the what.
- The truth is we are not saved by keeping laws. We are saved through Jesus Christ. But that implies necessary obedience to him, submission to his word.
- We need to obey the entire will of God, not just the parts that we agree with or we find convenient.
- We elevate one verse like a John 3.16, and we say, that's it. I'm going to put this above all the other passages of Scripture.
- We need to stand up for all of what the Bible says, not just some, not just a part, but the entirety of the will of God.

3 A Distortion of the Truth: False Teaching

Matthew 7:15–19

- He pointed out cleaner waters. Wouldn't these be better?
- Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits.
- When you teach something that's contrary to the word of God, you may drag people out with you away from the very arms of the loving God whom you're claiming to serve.
- Jesus built one church, he established one body.
- Not everyone who says to me, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven. But he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
- There is one body. There is one truth. There's one gospel.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Who will you seek today? Not be given in to false teaching. Don't be distracted from truth. Don't just disagree with it and cast it aside. And most assuredly, don't distort the truth.**

MY NOTES