

EVERYDAY CHRISTIANITY

Text: (Philippians 2:12-13, KJV)

¹² Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

I. OBEDIENCE

1. "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:7-10, NIV).

A. Obedience to the Word

1. "Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true" (Acts 17:11, NIV).
2. "We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. The man who says, 'I know him,' but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him" (1 John 2:3-5, NIV).
3. "If you love me, keep my commands" (John 14:15, NIV).

B. Obedience and Faithfulness Go Together

1. "If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them" (James 4:17, NIV).
2. "And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient" (Romans 1:28, KJV).
3. "Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done" (Romans 1:28, NIV).
4. "Since they didn't bother to acknowledge God, God quit bothering them and let them run loose. And then all hell broke loose: rampant evil, grabbing and grasping, vicious backstabbing. They made life hell on earth with their envy, wanton killing, bickering, and cheating. Look at them: mean-spirited, venomous, fork-tongued God-bashers. Bullies, swaggerers, insufferable windbags! They keep inventing new ways of wrecking lives. They ditch their parents when they get in the way. Stupid, slimy, cruel, cold-blooded. And it's not as if they don't know better. They know perfectly well they're spitting in God's face. And they don't care—worse, they hand out prizes to those who do the worst things best" (Romans 1:28-32, MSG)!
5. "And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die" (Genesis 3:4, KJV).

C. If Jesus Is Not Lord of All, He Is Not Lord at All

1. "Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord" (Jude 1:4, NIV).
2. "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36, NIV).
3. "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life

will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it” (Matthew 16:24-25, NIV).

III. PASTORAL DISCIPLINE AND CORRECTION

1. “Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit” (Hebrews 13:17, NLT).

A. The Need for Correction

1. “It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that does not occur even among pagans: A man has his father’s wife” (I Corinthians 5:1, NIV).

B. To Refuse Discipline and Correction Is Pride

1. “And you are proud! Shouldn’t you rather have been filled with grief and have put out of your fellowship the man who did this” (I Corinthians 5:2, NIV)?
2. “If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector” (Matthew 18:15-17, NIV).

C. The Proper Response

1. “Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow” (Psalm 51:7, NIV).
2. “Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice” (Psalm 51:8, NIV).

III. THE MARKS OF THE CROSS

A. Take Up the Cross and Follow Me

1. “After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.
As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross” (Matthew 27:31-32, NIV).
2. “A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross” (Mark 15:21, NIV).
3. “Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too” (Romans 16:13, NIV).

B. The Marks of Calvary

1. “Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach” (Hebrews 13:12-13).
2. “By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward” (Hebrews 11:24-26, NIV).