

## EXODUS 8:25-32

# No Compromise with the Word of God

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**CONTROLLING QUESTION:** What gives us the conviction to obey God when compromise offers an easier way?

**GOVERNING TRUTH:** Uncompromising obedience grows out of an increasingly settled confidence in the character of God.

### THE CENTRAL REFRAIN

*The more settled you become about who God is, the less willing you will be to compromise what He has said.*

### THREE MOVEMENTS

1. Pharaoh offers religion without surrender – vv. 25-27.
2. Pharaoh limits obedience, but Moses stands upon God's Word – vv. 28-29.
3. The LORD proves faithful, but Pharaoh returns to rebellion – vv. 30-32.

*What do you most need the LORD to show you about His character and your obedience?*

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## 1. PHARAOH OFFERS RELIGION WITHOUT SURRENDER

**Exodus 8:25-27**

**PHARAOH'S OFFER:** "Go, sacrifice to your God within the land." Pharaoh offers worship without deliverance and religion without surrender.

### THE TEMPTATION TO ADJUST GOD'S WORD

The serpent's strategy is often not an open rejection of God, but a subtle revision: "Did God really say?" (Genesis 3:1). Pharaoh echoes that temptation: "You do not have to reject God. Just adjust what He said."

**PRAGMATISM VERSUS OBEDIENCE:** Pragmatism asks, "Will it work?" Faithful obedience asks, "Is it right, and is it what God commanded?"

### MOSES' SETTLED CONVICTION

Moses answers, "It is not right to do so" and "We must...sacrifice to the LORD our God as He commands us" (Exodus 8:26-27).

Moses could stand firmly upon the Word of God because he had learned that the God who speaks is always faithful to what He says.

*Where are you tempted to renegotiate something God has made clear?*

## 2. MOSES STANDS UPON GOD'S WORD

**Exodus 8:28-29**

**PHARAOH'S SECOND OFFER:** "I will let you go...only you shall not go very far away." Pharaoh releases his grip but still tries to control the distance of Israel's obedience.

### A NEARBY CHRISTIANITY

The world does not necessarily object to Christianity that remains close enough to Egypt to be influenced by Egypt. The question is not, "How close can I remain to the world?" but, "How fully can I follow Christ?"

Biblical separation is not isolation from people who need Christ. Jesus remained near sinners without participating in their sin (John 17:15-18).

### PRAYER WITHOUT REPENTANCE

Pharaoh gives orders while asking Moses to pray for him. He wants God's help without God's rule. Moses responds with both compassion and clarity: he prays for Pharaoh and warns him not to deceive again.

**PRAYER:** Prayer is not a tool for persuading God to approve our terms. Prayer brings us beneath His authority and aligns our hearts with His will (1 John 5:14).

*Are you asking God to remove consequences while protecting the choices that produced them?*

## 3. THE LORD PROVES FAITHFUL

**Exodus 8:30-32**

**COMPLETE AUTHORITY:** The LORD removes the swarms so completely that "not one remained." He rules both the sending and the removal.

Every act of obedience gives us another opportunity to know the faithfulness of God. Not every act of obedience produces immediate relief, but obedience places us where we can know Him more faithfully.

## RELIEF IS NOT REPENTANCE

Relief says, "I want the pain to stop." Repentance says, "I have been wrong, and God is right." Relief may promise change under pressure; repentance continues obeying after the pressure is gone.

**TWO RESPONSES:** Pharaoh wants God to change his circumstances. Moses is allowing God to change him.

## THE SAME WORD EXPOSES EVERY HEART

One person hears a command and asks, "How can I obey?" Another asks, "How can I get around it?" The difference is not in the clarity of God's Word, but in the response of the heart.

*When God removes pressure, do you remember what you promised Him while you were under it?*

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## RESPONDING WITHOUT COMPROMISE

*Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:5-10; Titus 2:11-14*

### TRANSFORMATION THROUGH GOD'S CHARACTER

Moses moved from self-reliance, to hesitation, to struggling obedience, and then to settled conviction. He stopped interpreting God through his circumstances and began interpreting his circumstances through God's Word.

**EXAMINE YOUR HEART:** Where are you negotiating with God instead of obeying Him? What area have you marked, "This far, Lord—but no farther"?

Complete obedience does not mean sinless perfection. A maturing believer still fails, but no longer wants to negotiate peace with sin. We confess what God exposes rather than renaming or excusing it.

### LOOK AGAIN AT GOD

He is sovereign enough to command creation, just enough to confront oppression, merciful enough to answer prayer for a deceitful king, powerful enough to remove every fly, and faithful enough to do exactly what He says.

**GOSPEL HOPE:** Jesus Christ died for our sins and rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). He does not merely improve life in Egypt; He delivers us from darkness and brings us into His kingdom (Colossians 1:13-14).

## MY PRAYER AND RESPONSE

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**PRAYER:** Lord, settle my heart in Your character. Renew my mind through Your Word, expose where I am compromising, and give me grace to obey You completely.