

TO EXPERIENCE GOD IS TO OBEY GOD
Romans 8:31-39 CSB

- You come to know God by EXPERIENCE as you OBEY Him, and He accomplishes His work through you.

Then Samuel said: "Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? Look: to obey is better than sacrifice, to pay attention is better than the fat of rams."

1 Samuel 15:22 (CSB)

- Sometimes we don't experience God because we worship and obey the God who WE WANT more than the God WHO IS.

What, then, are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He did not even spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. How will he not also with him grant us everything? ³³Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies. ³⁴Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. ³⁵Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: Because of you we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered. ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-39 (CSB)

1. Obey God because He PAID an incredible PRICE. (Vs 31-32)
If God is for us, who is against us?

Romans 8:31b (CSB)

He did not even spare his own Son but gave him up for us all.

Romans 8:32a (CSB)

For it is impossible to renew to repentance those who were once enlightened, who tasted the heavenly gift, who shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵who tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age, ⁶and who have fallen away. This is because, to their own harm, they are recrucifying the Son of God and holding him up to contempt. ⁷For the ground that drinks the rain that often falls on it and that produces vegetation useful to those for whom it is cultivated receives a blessing from God. ⁸But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and about to be cursed, and at the end will be burned. ⁹Even though we are speaking this way, dearly loved friends, in your case we are confident of things that are better and that pertain to salvation.

Hebrews 6:4-9 (CSB)

2. Obey God because He PROTECTS His INVESTMENT. (Vs 33-39)

Who can bring an accusation against God's elect?

Romans 8:33a (CSB)

Who is the one who condemns?

Romans 8:34a (CSB)

Who can separate us from the love of Christ?

Romans 8:35a (CSB)

This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows all things.

1 John 3:19-20 (CSB)

Then war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels also fought, ⁸but he could not prevail, and there was no place for them in heaven any longer. ⁹So the great dragon was thrown out—the ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the one who deceives the whole world. He was thrown to earth, and his angels with him. ¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say, The salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have now come, because the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been thrown down. ¹¹They conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; for they did not love their lives to the point of death. ¹²Therefore rejoice, you heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great fury, because he knows his time is short.

Revelation 12:7-12 (CSB)

- It doesn't matter who stands against us because NOBODY is GREATER than God, who is in you and with you!

God is the one who justifies.

Romans 8:33b (CSB)

Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us.

Romans 8:34b (CSB)

We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (CSB)

Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humble condition into the likeness of his glorious body, by the power that enables him to subject everything to himself.

Philippians 3:20-21 (CSB)

We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; and those he called, he also justified; and those he justified, he also glorified.

Romans 8:28-30 (CSB)