

I. OBEDIENCE: THE KEY TO RESET

While God may initiate resets in our lives, they only take effect when we actively cooperate with them. Our obedience to His leadings is key in accomplishing the goal of every reset.

A. Obedience Defined:

1. To comply with an order.
2. To follow instructions.
3. Submission to another's authority.
4. Compliance.
 - Obedience is doing what you are told or following instructions from someone in authority.

B. There is a Pronounced Blessing Upon Obedience in Scripture

1. Deuteronomy 28:1-2

NKJV "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God..."

2. Deuteronomy 6:24

NKJV "And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as *it is* this day."

HSCB "The LORD commanded us to follow all these statutes and to fear the LORD our God for our prosperity always and for our preservation, as it is today."

3. Isaiah 48:18

CEV "How I wish that you had obeyed my commands! Your success and good fortune would then have overflowed like a flooding river."

4. Isaiah 1:19

NKJV "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good (best) of the land"

5. **Acts 13:21-22**

NKJV “And afterward they asked for a king; so, God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, ‘I have found David the *son* of Jesse, a man after My *own* heart, who will do all My will.’”

NLT “He will do everything I want him to do.”

Weymouth “Who will obey all my commands.”

- a. Saul was rejected as King because of disobedience.
- b. Although David sinned and wasn’t perfect in his actions, he was always quick to repent (reset) and obey the Lord’s instructions.

C. Jesus—Our Highest Example—Lived in Full Obedience to the Father’s Will

1. Scriptures:

a. **Hebrews 5:8**

HCSB “Though He was God’s Son, **He learned obedience** through what He suffered.”

b. **Philippians 2:8**

NKJV “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and **became obedient** to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross.”

2. Although He was the Son of God, Jesus came to earth as a man.

- a. While living in a body of flesh, He had to submit Himself to obedience just like we do.
- b. He chose to obey!

D. Common Misconceptions Regarding Obedience:

1. “Because we are in the covenant of Grace, obedience is no longer an issue.”
2. “Because grace has dealt with the sin issue, we don’t need to be concerned with obedience any longer.”
3. “When we attempt to walk in obedience, we are going back to the Law (a performance driven system).”

PASTOR'S NOTE: *Obedience to God should not be seen as a burden, but as an honor and privilege, knowing that following Him always brings blessing to our lives.*

E. Obedience Was Never Omitted from God's Plan

While we do not live under a performance driven system for obtaining salvation, obedience is still a requirement if we are going to experience the full blessing and potential of our salvation.

1. You had to **obey** the Gospel just to get saved.

2. **Luke 11:28**

GNT "But Jesus answered, 'Rather, how happy are those who hear the word of God and obey it!'"

3. **Philippians 2:12-13**

NKJV "Therefore, my beloved, as you 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; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure."

NLT "Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear."

AMP "...[that is, cultivate it, bring it to full effect, actively pursue spiritual maturity]..."

- a. *"work out your own salvation with fear and trembling"*
- b. This is not working for salvation; this is working out the fruit / results.
- c. We are to bring forth the fruit of our salvation by:
 - Obedience
 - Renewing our mind
 - Submitting our bodies
 - Service unto the Lord
 - Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit
 - Being disciplined

d. **Vs. 13**

NKJV “For it is God who works in you both to **WILL** and to **DO** for his good pleasure.”

NLT “For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.”

HCSB “For it is God who is working in you, enabling you both to desire and to work out His good purpose.”

- God is working in you to **WILL** and to **DO**.
 - **To will** = your desires
 - **To do** = your actions

e. When our desires and actions align with His desires and actions, that’s obedience.

4. **Romans 6:15-18**

NLT “Well then, since God’s grace has set us free from the law, does that mean we can go on sinning? Of course not! Don’t you realize that **you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey?** You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living. Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, **but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you.** Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.”

- a. Whatever I choose to obey **has authority over me.**
- b. Whatever you tolerate **you give permission to exist.**
- c. I can be saved **and still allow my flesh to rule in my life**—and the cost will be great.
- d. When I am saved, **I can develop in obedience** to the will of God and my life will experience blessing.
- e. There is always cost associated with disobedience. There is always blessing associated with obedience.

5. **1 Peter 1:14**

NKJV “So you must **live as God’s obedient children**. Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn’t know any better then.”

- a. Live as obedient children.
- b. Obedient children listen to instruction.
- c. Obedient children follow instructions (obedience).
- d. Obedient children reap the harvest of obedience.
- e. Obedience keeps you out of trouble.
- f. Obedience keeps you on course.

II. **OBEDIENCE AND RESET**

A. **Every Reset Will Require Obedience**

1. God will give you directions for reset.
2. It is your choice to ignore or obey.
3. When you obey, you will reap the benefit of that reset.

B. **Pay attention to the inward impressions from the Lord.**

1. God still speaks.
 - **John 10:27**
NKJV “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”
 - **Romans 8:14**
NKJV “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”
 - **Isaiah 30:21**
NKJV “And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it,’ whenever you turn to the right or to the left.”
 - **Galatians 5:16**
NKJV “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”
 - **John 16:13**
NKJV “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”

PASTOR'S NOTE: *You have a Guide—follow the Guide!*

2. Don't ignore the little details.
 - a. Often, **the victory is in the little things**—things often ignored / overlooked.
 - b. If God brings it to your attention, small or large, pay attention!

3. Whatever God is shining His light upon in your life needs your attention.
 - a. Bitterness / unforgiveness
 - b. Sin
 - c. Lifestyle habits / patterns
 - d. Love
 - e. Words
 - f. Strife

4. **Song of Solomon 2:15**
NKJV "Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines *have* tender grapes."
 - a. "Little foxes" that ruin and destroy our harvest.
 - b. Little things left unattended can destroy your harvest.
 - c. Reset causes us to pay attention to the little things that God brings to our attention so our harvest will not be destroyed!

5. In **Deuteronomy 28**, we are told to "DILIGENTLY OBEY":
 - a. Be diligent to hear / to perceive.
 - b. To hear with attention or interest for the purpose of obeying.
 - c. To listen so you can yield, so you can obey.
 - d. To carefully listen to the instruction so you can completely obey.

C. God's Initiated Resets Are a Blessing to Your Life!

Obedience will bless your life and take you forward!

PASTOR'S NOTE: Be quick to hear. Be quick to obey.