

THE PLEASURE OF GOD IN OBEDIENCE

Series: The Pleasure of God

Text: I Samuel 15

Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them... I Samuel 15:3

Why does God delight in obedience? Is it good news to hear what pleases God is obedience, or is it just a discouraging burden?

1. Disobedience Shows a Misplacement of Fear

Yes, I have sinned; I have disobeyed your instructions and the Lord's command, for I was afraid of the people and did what they demanded. I Samuel 15:24

Four signs you fear man more than God.

- You have a pattern of making bad decisions in order to please others.
- You justify what you know is sin because others are doing it.
- You find your value in what others say over what God says.
- You keep your faith to yourself.

2. Disobedience Shows a Misplacement of Pleasure

Then my troops brought in the best of the sheep and cattle and plunder to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal. I Samuel 15:21

3. Disobedience Shows a Misplacement of Praise

It was told Samuel, Saul came to Carmel and behold, he set up a monument for himself. I Samuel 15:12

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Isaiah 51:1

4. Disobedience is as the Sin of Witchcraft

Obedience is far better than sacrifice...rebellion is as bad as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as bad as worshiping idols. I Samuel 15:23

Witchcraft is seeking to know what to do in a way that ignores the word and counsel of God.

Reasons why it is good news that God delights in Obedience?

- **It Means God is Praiseworthy and Reliable**

He became obedient unto death even the death of the cross. Philippians 2:8

...who for the joy set before him, he endured the cross despising its shame. Hebrews 12:2

- **God's Commandments are Not Too Hard**

This commandment which I command you this day is not too hard for you. Deuteronomy 30:11

This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. I John 5:3

- **Everything God Commands Us Is for Our Good**

And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord which I command you this day for your good. Deuteronomy 10:12–13

God takes pleasure in our obedience.