

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

Volume 13

September 29, 2024

Number 39

THREE REASONS TO OBEY GOD

Nicolas Edwards

Let me give you three good reasons for obeying God.

OBEYING GOD MAKES US FREE FROM SIN. All have sinned (Rom. 3:23). Our sin separates us from God and will bring eternal separation and punishment in hell (Rom. 6:23; Is. 59:1-2; 2 Th. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:12-14). God’s love for man gave us a Savior (Jn. 3:16). God’s grace has brought salvation (Titus 2:11-12). The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes (Rom. 1:16). To be saved by the gospel, one must hear, believe and obey it (Rom. 1:16; 10:17; 10:16). When a person obeys the gospel, he is saved by the power of God! Then it can be said, *“But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness”* (Rom. 6:17-18).

THE REWARD FOR OBEYING. There is great reward for those who obey God.

1. **Entrance into the kingdom of heaven.** *“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the*

kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven” (Mt. 7:21).

2. **Eternal life.** *“To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life”* (Rom. 2:7).

3. **Glory, honour, and peace.** *“But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first and also to the Gentile”* (Rom. 2:10).

4. **Everlasting life.** *“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life”* (Rom. 6:22).

5. **Eternal salvation.** *“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him”* (Heb. 5:9).

6. **Rest** (Heb. 4:9; Rev. 14:12-13).

7. **Purified souls.** *“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth... (1 Pet. 1:22).*

8. **Right and entrance.** *“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city”* (Rev. 22:14).

THE PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEYING. There is great punishment for those who do not obey God.

1. **Indignation, wrath, tribulation, and anguish.** *“But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation, and wrath, tribulation, and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil...”* (Rom. 2:8-9).

2. **Everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord.** *“And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power”* (2 Th. 1:7-9).

3. **Hell** (Mt. 25:41; Rev. 20:12-14; 21:8; 22:15).

The disobedient will not escape this punishment! (Heb. 2:2-3).

These three reasons ought to motivate us to do anything and everything God says to do, with full submission (1 Jn. 5:3).

**EVERY MEMBER
AT EVERY SERVICE!**

“HE THAT HEARETH, AND DOETH NOT”

John Edwards

A reading of Luke 6:46-49 reveals two different people: The individual who hears the Lord’s sayings “*and doeth them*” (vv. 47-48) and “*he that heareth, and doeth not*” (v. 49). This brief writing takes a look at the individual who hears, but does not do what the Lord says.

HE IS LIKE A FOOLISH MAN. The Lord said, “*And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it*” (Mt. 7:26-27). Wise men hear and do (vv. 24-25)!

HE IS BAD SOIL. In the parable of the sower, as recorded in Luke 8:4-15, the only place the seed produced was “*on good ground*” (v. 8). This represents “*...they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with*

patience” (v. 15). The other three places the seed fell (by the way side, upon a rock, and among thorns) were bad soil. Those with “*an honest and good heart*”, represented by the good ground, hear and do. To hear and not do is to be bad soil!

HE WILL DIE IN HIS INIQUITY. God tasked Ezekiel with being “*a watchman unto the house of Israel*” to “*hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me*” (Ezek. 33:7-9). The Lord said, “*Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul*” (v. 9). How sad for the wicked to have been warned, but not turn from his way! Such a one who hears, but does not do “*shall die in his iniquity*”.

HE IS NOT JUST BEFORE GOD. It is written in Romans 2:13, “*For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.*”

HE IS DECEIVING HIMSELF. James taught, “*But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a*

hearer of the word, and not a doer; he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was” (Jas. 1:22-24).

HE IS NOT BLESSED. The “*doer of the work*” is the man who “*shall be blessed*” (Jas. 1:25). When giving instruction to His people the Lord said, “*Blessed is the man that doeth this...*” (Is. 56:2). The blessed man of Revelation 1:3 is “*...he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein....*”

HE DOES NOT LOVE THE LORD. A man who loves the Lord does what the Lord says do. Jesus said, “*If ye love me, keep my commandments*” (Jn. 14:15). Again, “*If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings...*” (Jn. 14:23-24). Show me the man who hears and does what the Lord says and I’ll show you the man who truly loves the Lord.

The Terre Haute **SPEAKER** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

4017 E Margaret DR
Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Come be with us!



**We Speak Where the
Bible Speaks.**

**We Are Silent Where the
Bible Is Silent.**

**We Do Bible Things in
Bible Ways.**

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com