

God's Blueprint for Rebuilding His Church & Your Life

"Getting Serious About Obedience"

Nehemiah 8.13-18

Hearing & Reading the Bible is NOT Enough. (Rev. 1:3)

The Bible is Written with the END GOAL of Being Obeyed. (Deut. 30:19-20)

OBEDIENCE "Sums Up" our Relationship with Jesus...

Today, we find FIVE REASONS WE are to OBEY God's Word.

- 1. WE OBEY GOD'S WORD BECAUSE WE'RE HUNGRY.** (v.13a)
 - ONE DAY was NOT Sufficient to Curb their hunger.
 - God's People Hadn't been FED God's Word for 70+ yrs & they were Starving!
 - When WE Exalt God & Embrace Life Change through His Word, the Expected Reaction is a Hunger to OBEY God.
- 2. WE OBEY GOD'S WORD BECAUSE WE'RE HUMBLE.** (v.13b)
 - One Key to being able to Learn & Obey is to come before God with a spirit of Humility.
 - The person who is FULL of Himself has NO Room for God.
 - A Humble person is convinced that he DOESN'T Know Everything.
- 3. WE OBEY GOD'S WORD BECAUSE WE'RE HONEST.**
 - We Obey God because we want to BE STRAIGHT with God.
 - An Honesty is Required for Obedience...No Ulterior Motives...No Self-Centered Intentions.
 - We must say to God, "I will Do Whatever Your word says for me to do...with NO EXCUSES,"
- 4. WE OBEY GOD'S WORD BECAUSE IT'S A HABIT.** (v.18)
 - Spiritual Hunger works OPPOSITE to Physical Hunger.
 - Spiritual "Hunger" Grows the MORE we Feed it, Physical "Hunger" Grows the MORE you Ignore it.
 - Habitually Feeding Yourself a diet of God's Word leads to Increased Hunger for the things of God.
 - For God's Word to Take Hold in our lives, we must make Hearing & Doing God's Word a HABIT.
- 5. WE OBEY GOD'S WORD BECAUSE IT RESULTS IN HAPPINESS.** (v.17)
 - Obedience ALWAYS Increases Happiness...ALWAYS.
 - When you Know you're doing the Right Thing & God is Pleased with you...Happiness is the Result.
 - The Lord Honors Obedience...HE is Glorified & YOU will Experience JOY.
 - What was TRUE Then is TRUE Now.
 - STEP ONE to God Renewing His People is to Get Back In The Book...
 - STEP TWO is to Get Serious About Obedience.