

# Obeying God

Reading: [1 Peter 3:20-22](#)

Text: [Genesis 6-7](#)

Introduction:

## Wedding Vows

A young couple was having their first fight, and it was a big one. After a while, the husband said: "When we got married, you promised to love, honor and **obey**."

His bride replied: "I know. But I didn't want to start an argument in front of all those people at the wedding."

## At Another Wedding

"How did the wedding go?" asked the preacher's wife.

"Just fine until I asked the bride if she would obey and she said, 'Do you think I'm nuts?' and the groom said, 'I do,' and then things really began to happen fast."

## Is All That "Obeying" All That Necessary?

Today, I want to talk to you about 2 Bible characters 1 who obeyed, and 1 who did not.

## 1. Noah Obeyed

[Genesis 6:9-22](#)

**"He did all that God commanded him."**

- Maybe you can get a highlighter and highlight [verse 22](#), then also highlight [7:5](#), [9](#), [16](#)
  - [7:5](#) And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.
  - [7:9](#) as God had commanded Noah
  - [7:16](#) as God had commanded him.

## What Can We Learn From This Story

- Noah wanted to please God. How do we know?
  - [6:8](#) But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord
  - [6:9](#) Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God!
  - He walked with God just like [5:22](#) says [Enoch](#) walked with God, just like we assume Adam and Eve walked with God before they ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
  - Abraham was called the friend of God [2 Chron. 20:7](#); [James 2:23](#). Was Noah? Likely!
  - How was he such good friends with God?
  - [James 4:4](#) says that "friendship with the world is enmity with God!" So, we can know that Noah was a friend of God because he was not a friend of the world!
- Therefore, when God told Noah to build an ark, there was no question he would do it!
  - **God told Noah why**, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth."
  - **But did he have to?**
  - God did not tell Abraham why: "Take your son your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."
  - Why do we question God so much? Do we really have to know why?
  - **If we walk with God, there will be fewer questions and more obedience!**

## 2. King Saul Disobeyed

[1 Samuel 15:1-3, 9-24](#)

**The Truth Comes Out**

- "because I feared the people and obeyed their voice!"
- This is not the first time: [1 Samuel 13:11](#) "when I saw that the people were scattering from me"
- Saul was a friend of the world. [James 4:4](#) "friendship with the world is enmity with God!"
- **THAT is why his kingdom was taken from him**: He constantly sought to please his friends instead of God! **That's why Samuel cried to the Lord all night!**

## 3. (Your Name Here) Obeyed Or Disobeyed?

**Why Must We Obey?**

- We want to know **why** God commands a particular thing, He may not always say why, but we can be assured it is for **our benefit** to listen and do **exactly what God says**.
  - [Matthew 7:24-27](#) "The **Wise Man** listened and **obeyed**, the foolish man did not obey."
- [Romans 6:17-18](#) But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become **obedient from the heart** to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been **set free from sin**, have become slaves of righteousness.

**Do You See That?**

- **Obedience from the heart** results in **freedom from sin!**
- [Romans 6:23](#) "wages of sin is death" Obedience results in freedom from death!
  - This is about more than eternity at the end of life; it is about right here and right now!
  - Do you realize our relationship with God is DEAD when we are disobedient?
  - When we walk with God, we are not going to have habitual problems in our lives!
    - Why? Because when we walk with God, we want to please God.
    - That's what we do with any friend. We want to please our friends.
  - When we walk with God, we will be faithful in our marriages, we will be true to our word, we will care for others around us. Because we want to please God.
    - Would you like to have a friend who is Loyal? Trustworthy? Caring?
    - Walk with God and you will find that not only is God a loyal, trustworthy and caring friend, but ALL who are HIS friends are that way, too and much more:

[Galatians 5:22-25](#)

But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, **faithfulness**, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And **those who belong to Christ Jesus** have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we **live** by the Spirit, let us also **walk** by the Spirit.

- God and His people are always loyal, trustworthy and caring: **this** is their fruit.
- Jesus said you would also recognize "ravenous wolves" by their fruits [Matthew 7:16-20](#)
  - Do **real friends** ask you to disobey your parents? **Are you a real friend** if you ask...?
  - Do **real friends** ask you to commit adultery or any other kind of sexual immorality?
  - Do **real friends** ask you lie or cheat or steal?
  - With this in mind: Some people are always trying to "fit in," but why would we want to?
- Are the friends you have right now loyal, trustworthy and caring **for your benefit or theirs?**
- Walk with God today and forever more be called a friend of God! Obey His word, repent...

Note: [Genesis 6:16](#) has been a source of contention for many years. During our Thursday night Bible study, we have been studying Christian evidences and more in particular is the Bible really the inspired word of God. One reason many people doubt the Bible is because of [6:16](#). Some translations use the word “window” indicating that there is only one 18 inch square window at the top of the ark. Historically, windows have served two basic purposes: lighting and ventilation. Compared to the size of the ark, one window this size would provide neither! So, unbelievers think, how could God tell Noah to make an ark with this HUGE flaw? The truth is, the Hebrew word translated window (isohar) in [6:16](#) appears only here in the Old Testament, and linguistic scholars are unsure as to its exact meaning. What is clear, however, is that the word translated “window” two chapters later, which Noah is said to have “opened” ([8:6](#)), is translated from a **different Hebrew word** (challówn) than what is used in [6:16](#)