

God's Mandate

Obedience is a sign of your love for God and fruit of your relationship with Him. Those who love God find delight in all that He has spoken and desire to know and to do His will. You have a choice to follow our Maker's instructions.

You have a choice to follow His examples from the guidelines found in His Word. His commandments are our guidelines. Keeping the commands of Jesus begins with recognizing what they are.

The Greek word for commandment translate as the Greek word "PARAGGELIA" and means "a mandate". Commandments are actually instructions of God's laws, or also known as God's commands. They are not meant or given to inhibit us, but rather help to define the life we were created to live.

God's commands can be hard — but not burdensome. In fact, this is love for God: to keep His commandments and His commandments are not burdensome" 1 John 5:3. God's commandments carry multi-purposes and here are just a few examples:

They define what is good for you;
Help fulfill the identity He created you to be;
Help show what is bad for you;
What can corrupt you;
Show you what prevents you from ever being what He created you to be.

God made you. He knows best how you can achieve our potential. He who made you and knows exactly what is good for you and what is bad for you. God gives you commandments to help keep you focused on what is most important.

You are a child of God, and you are to do what He commands. Obedience should come from the heart, and done because you want to, not grudgingly or because you have to. Unfortunately, ignoring God's Word can become enemy number one to your relationship with God.

If you are careful to do according what is written, He promises that you will be prosperous and can have good success. Your obedience to God's commandments comes from your desire to show your love for Him. The Lord then tells of the blessing that comes to those who value and do His commandments.

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way, Who walk in the law of the Lord! Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, Who seek Him with the whole heart! They also do no iniquity; They walk in His ways. You have commanded us. To keep Your precepts diligently. Oh, that my ways were directed. To keep Your statutes! Then I would not be ashamed, When I look into all Your commandments. I will praise You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments. I will keep Your statutes" (Psalm 119:1-8).

Obedience involves hope in a future blessing as you trust in Him that His perspective is much better than yours. After all, God is the rewarder of those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6) and obedience is a means of seeking Him!

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