

“And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the Truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.” 2 Timothy 2:24-26 KJV



God commands obedience, but does not coerce it. Precedent is set in the very first chapter of Genesis. *“God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.’ So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, ‘Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”* The commandments of the LORD are His blessings, because they steer us into protection and provision. God had already created all the provisions and the animals Adam and Eve would ever need if they obeyed. Disobedience brings a curse upon us, because it leads us down a path of our own choosing; where we have to procure our needs by ourselves. God’s commandments are His call to supper. The feast is already prepared and spread. You need only heed and obey the call to feast sumptuously! We do not serve God out of bondage, but with anticipation of delight! Men are given choice, but are warned of the consequences of wrong choices. If you had a choice to live in a secure resort for free as long as you kept the rules, why would you choose to battle for scraps on a garbage dump? Yet, that is exactly what men do by refusing to come to God and ask for forgiveness and mercy which are freely given to all who call. *“For WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved!”* Obedience to God’s commands procures all the blessings of protection and provision I will ever need. *“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and ALL THESE THINGS shall be added unto you!”* Why battle for the scraps of life when you can just obey God to have all needs provided?

I serve the LORD with willing heart,
For from me He will ne’er depart,
His Word surrounds me with a shield,
If I to His commands will yield! ~CGP

You can pedal yourself to a frazzle going uphill your way, or you can repent, turn around, and coast downhill with the gravity of God’s amazing Grace! When we disobey God we only defeat ourselves. *“ALL things (even bad) work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to HIS PURPOSE. Despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?”* Whose purpose do you serve? Christ set the example by coming to earth and demonstrating obedience. Yes, He was crucified, but He was also resurrected and forever glorified to prove His power and dominion over even death itself for all who will follow and obey His Word! Eternal pleasures await those who obey God’s Word *“for at Thy right hand are pleasures for evermore!”*

“Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the Joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the Throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.” Hebrews 12:2-3 KJV