

LORDSHIP & OBEDIENCE

Part 3 of THE PURPLE BOOK. Various and Colossians 2:6-7.

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. January 23, 2022.

INTRODUCTION

- Sometimes grace is mis-heard as an excuse to go on sinning. BUT ...

John 14:15 (ESV) If you love me, you will keep my commandments (teachings, precepts).

- How can we overcome the obstacles to obedience?

THE OBSTACLES TO OBEDIENCE

1. A dead heart.

2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

2. Ignorance of doctrine.

2 Peter 3:17b-18 (ESV) Take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. 18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

3. Living in darkness.

Ephesians 5:8-10 (ESV) At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

4. Deception.

1 Peter 1:14-16 (ESV) As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct ...

4. Depression or discouragement.

Psalms 32:3-4 (ESV) When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO OBEDIENCE

Colossians 2:6-7 (ESV) Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

1. Overcome in Jesus.

Verses 6-7: Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord ... rooted and built up in him

Colossians 2:2-3 (ESV) that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

2. Overcome by the truth.

Verse 7b established in the faith, just as you were taught

Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT) You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. 14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. 15 In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

John 17:17 (ESV) Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

2. Overcome by worship.

Verse 6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him ...

Colossians 2:9-10 (ESV) in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10 and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

HOMEWORK

1. Review today's teaching and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to obey.
2. At small group, discuss overcoming obstacles to obedience. Encourage.
3. Work through chapter three's daily studies on Repentance and Baptism.

TODAY'S BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL TERM: THE LORD

Lord is *kyrios* in Greek, the language of the New Testament. It is derived from an adjective that means "having power." In ordinary use in first century Israel, it meant "sir," "owner," "master," or "lord."

It became the personal name by which his earliest disciples referred to Jesus in light of his authoritative teaching and divine power. After the resurrection, Christians were those who called upon the name of the Lord. The title signifies that Jesus is the universal sovereign and head of the church.

John 20:27-28 (ESV) Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Acts 2:36 (ESV) Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Romans 10:9 (ESV) ... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Philippians 2:9-11 (ESV) Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The church's earliest confession of faith was, "Jesus is Lord." In this way, the Christians repudiated their allegiance to the pantheon of lords, even Caesar. Christians acknowledged both Christ's historicity (Jesus) and his deity (Lord), thus admitting to his absolute supremacy in the universe, church and individual lives as well as his victory over death and the hostile cosmic powers.

Adapted from "Lord" in the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia (1986).