OBEDIENCE – The Key

to

All God's blessings

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from King James Version of the Holy Bible.
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INTRODUCTION

I am writing this book with the full knowledge that with God obedience is key in life.

Many want God to bless them in various ways and with this or that, but what many do forget is the key to all God's blessings and which can unlock and release the blessings to them. It can be finances, healing, promotion, protection, name it, but all that hinges on one's obedience to God who is the blesser that blesses us as he owns everything that we may need in life as he is Jehovah - Jire (The Lord of provisions) (Genesis 22:14). God is the one that gives us richly all things to enjoy in this life (1 Timothy 6:17-19).

By reading this book you will be able to unlock all your blessings from God using that simple act of obedience as long as what you need from God is in his will (1 John 5:14-15).

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Chapter 1

On provisions

In this chapter we are going to see much on obedience vis a vis God's provisions but first we need to keenly look at the Scriptures on the subject on obedience as a key to God's blessings.

And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

1 Samuel 15:20-23

First of all, we need to understand that partial obedience is equated to disobedience as God expects full (100%) obedience from us all. We need to remember the case of Naaman the leper and the word of God by the prophet Elisha. Naaman wanted to obey just partially by not dipping himself into river Jordan seven times, until his servants persuaded him to obey fully and which he did and received his healing (2 Kings 5:1-14). King Saul too failed God's test by not following God's voice to the letter - he did partially by keeping Agag the king of the Amalekites and also by allowing the people he leads to spare some livestock for the purposes of giving sacrifices to God which God never instructed to be done but

that all things to be utterly destroyed. Now the words in bold in the above text tells it all.

God highly esteems obedience and is delighted only in that and not on anything else.

For your information obedience is an act just like faith and both are not passive but active and further more they are not just any acts but right acts as per the word of God which is actually righteousness. And the God of Israel the Creator of heaven and earth and all that is therein is a holy and a righteous God and therefore expects us all (human beings) to be righteous for he created us. So, in conclusion obedience is equated to faith and righteousness and are one thing essentially, as one cannot put away any of them in isolation as they work together as a team.

Many people have replaced the obedience to God's word with their sacrifices in tithes and other offerings and concentrate more on them than in obeying God's word and that is their undoing. It is like they are trying to bribe God

to be in good books with him which is a fallacy.

God never takes bribes from anybody and to give or take a bribe is sin in itself (Deuteronomy 10:16-17; 16:18-19, Ecclesiastes 7:7). It is right to pay tithes and other offerings to God but it is not an end in itself as it is not all righteousness (Psalm 51:16-17).

One has to obey all the words of God to be safe and not to choose what to obey or what not to obey. To God he views all his commandments as equal and righteous and does not count some to be more or less important than the others.

But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.

Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.

Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

Psalm 103:17-22

The mercy of God is ever present available to them that fear him (those that obey him shunning away evil remembering to do God's commandments that is doing his pleasure/will). So, to be disobedient is to displease God and his blessing to you can be not forth coming.

And it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked.

But he said, Yea rather, **blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.**

Luke 11:27-28

While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.

But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? And who are my brethren?

And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said,

Behold my mother and my brethren!

For **whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.**

Matthew 12:46-50

In all the two scriptures Jesus the Son of God speaks of how important it is to obey God's word, he further says such a one that obeys is

blessed. So we should stop thinking that we are a blessed lot when we live in disobedience. In the same vein we should not expect to be blessed by God in our disobedience.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.
But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,
Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.
But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 4:13-20

It is good to be unlearned and ignorant but to be with Jesus because with him you can please God and do exploits for him. Many are learned like professors, doctors, engineers name it, but some of them what they do is quite contrary to the word of God and therefore are a disobedient lot and for sure are not blessed and are walking on a very slippery ground.

Now the truth is that those who are really learned God wise are those who know Him and have put their faith and trust in him. Because in God there is everything wisdom,

knowledge, truth, righteous, holiness, love, oh my! For the wisdom of this world comes to nought (1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 2:1-8).

Now I need to mention that the only exception I can see on obedience and God's blessings in the Scripture is best purely on God's love on mankind and for their livelihood as the following scripture records:

Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

That ye may be the children of your **Father** which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 5:43-45

God brings the sun and the rain to all of us on humanitarian ground based on his love for all of us but he does not justify evil (sin).
He is not partial but impartial (James 2:1-10). The scriptures I have presented earlier just underscores the need to obey God as a condition of getting his blessings. Now let us move further and see other scriptures on God's provisions as God is our provider (Genesis 22:13-14, Exodus 16, 1 Timothy 6:17-19).

And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,
That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.
And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

Deuteronomy 11:13-15

You can see that God wanted obedience from the Israelites so that he can bless them with provisions. The same do apply to us as well as we are not an exemption.

Chapter 2

On protection

In this chapter we are going to see God's protection and which to a great extent is based on one's obedience to him.

AND it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.

There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowl of the air; for it repented me that I have made them.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God.

And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham and Ja'-pheth.

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them: and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Make thee an ark of go'-pher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under

heaven; and everything that is in the earth shall die.

But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food to thee, and for them.

Thus did Noah, according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

AND the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteousness before me in this generation.

Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by the sevens, the male and this female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.

And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

Of clean beasts and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of everything that creepeth upon the earth.

There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second day of the month, in the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Ja'-pheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth.

And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping thing, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and

Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

Genesis 6:1-7:23

Now the above is a classical example of God's protection based purely on obedience to him. The man Noah obeyed God to the letter (100%) and that resulted in their salvation for Noah and his house as they received divine protection.

Noah was so faithful to God. For further reading on people who were truly faithful to God you can read my other book entitled' The Faithful of God'.

AND the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,

This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for a house:

And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him, and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's pass over.

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the first born in the land of Egypt I will execute judgement: I am the Lord.

And the blood shall be to you a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

And in the first day there shall be a holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.

And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread,

until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.

Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the pass over.

And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.

For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not

suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.

And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD's pass over, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshiped.

And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the Passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:

But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.

A foreigner and a hired servant shall not eat thereof

In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth aught of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.

All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

One law shall be to him that is home born, and unto the stranger that sojourned among you.

Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt,

from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

Exodus 12:1-29

The above is yet another classical example of God's protection strictly based on obedience to him. It is time we took God at his word for he is serious and we too need to be serious with him in life.

And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is this day.

And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us.

Deuteronomy 6:24-25

Now the above scripture is to confirm what I said in the first chapter that obedience is equated to faith and to righteousness.

Remember the Scripture says that Abraham because of his faith obeyed God's voice and that was counted as righteousness on his part by God - it is acting on God's word that not only shows faith in him but shows righteousness on our part (Romans 4:13-25, Galatians 3:6-14).

If you want to know that without obedience to God there is no guarantee for protection read the book of Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 1:25-46). Read also the book of Joshua (Joshua 7:1-12). For further reading on divine protection you can read my other book entitled 'A Christian and divine protection'.

Chapter 3

On healing and health

In this chapter we are going to see how healing and health is connected with obedience.

So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD showed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: **there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,**

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do

that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

Exodus 15:22-27

We see from the above scripture that God who is a God of provisions provided for the Israelites water which he had healed from their bitterness and were now sweet so that they could drink as they thirsted for water and then he gave them a statute and an ordinance which he pegged on obedience and which touched on their healing and health. He told them that he is the God that heals them (Jehovah-Raphe) but he said that the condition for healing and health will be possible only if they will give ear to his commandments, meaning if they will obey his

commandments and God who is full of mercy when they came to Elim surprisingly there found twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees.

The water they found must have been sweet for they encamped there and each tribe had its own well to drink from (for Israel is composed of twelve tribes) coming from the twelve sons of Jacob. The palm trees must have fruits for them to eat. What an awesome God we have! The God of Israel.

At this juncture we need to remind ourselves that in many cases it is disobedience (sin) that make us to be sick by illnesses and that is why when Jesus healed some people he would say their sins have been forgiven (Mark 9:1-8) which means that sin is what brought the illness in the first place and when sin is removed through God's forgiveness the illness too leaves (a healing takes place), and when one is not ill then one is in good health. It follows therefore that to be in good health one need to be living in obedience to God by

obeying his commandments. I have elaborated more on this in my book entitled ‘The Secret in Healing and Health’.

AFTER this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.
In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water.
For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.
And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years
When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me in the pool: but while I am coming, another steeped down before me.

Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.

And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the Sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed.

He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk?

Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?

And he that was healed wist not who it was: for Jesus had conveyed himself away, a multitude being in that place.

Afterward, Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made

whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

John 5:1-14

It was wise for that man who was healed to have gone into a temple (God's house of worship) after receiving his healing by the Lord Jesus. Most likely he went there to thank the God of Israel for the healing. Jesus met him there as it was his custom to go to a temple or a synagogue (house of his father) in minding about God's business and he advised the man that was healed-sin no more. It simply means sin had put him in his earlier position/state for 38 years until Jesus forgave him his sin and healed him. He got that advice at the right time (early enough) before engaging in daily activities so that he can maintain his good health. If he did not obey the Lord Jesus on that advice a worse thing would come to his life - I believe a worse illness which could even result in his death. We need to remember how he advised also the woman that was caught/found in adultery

when he forgave her and told her ‘Go and sin no more’ (John 8:1-11), the exact words he told this man. Why? because her a worse thing would come to her life if she went to sin again as we all know that sexually transmitted infections come about through one involving oneself in a sexual intercourse and therefore that advice was necessary so that she does not end up with say syphilis or HIV Aids. I think it suffices for me to stop here. Let’s meet in the next chapter.

Chapter 4

On eternity in Heaven

In this chapter we are going to see that one cannot go into eternity in heaven without first living an obedient life here on earth.

Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of the Father which is in heaven.

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Matthew 7:21-23

It is quite foolish to do things in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ while living in disobedience to him (verses 26 to 27). Obedience to God must precede all other things in life. So let us be truly wise in the

sight of God who is very, very holy (Isaiah 6:1-3)

For God, so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that **whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

John 3:16

Faith is an action and if you have faith then automatically you will act on it. The above scripture says that whosoever believes in the Son of God have everlasting life. Now that life is in heaven and the above is a minimum condition which must be met and others to follow when one is now a Christian (a child of God). Faith as I said elsewhere in an earlier chapter is obedience to the word of God and also is equated to righteousness and that is why Abraham believed in God's voice doing it and it was accounted to him as righteousness. So, we can see clearly that only those that believe God's word that his Son is the Saviour and confess him as Lord and

Saviour in their lives after repenting of their sins have everlasting life in heaven.

The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things in to his hand.

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 3:35-36

Those that believe in Jesus Christ the Son of God are the ones that has everlasting life.

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God: that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

1 John 5:11-13

To have Christ Jesus in life is to have everlasting life and one can't have him unless he first believes in him.

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.
I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.
Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Revelation 22:12-14

Those who are blessed and enter the city of the new Jerusalem in heaven are only those who obey God.

Chapter 5

On promotion

In this chapter we are going to see how one can be promoted and the person who brings it.

Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.

For **promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.**

Psalm 75:5-7

Promotion comes from God as the above scripture says. Let us see on what ground that it is given.

And **the LORD shall make thee the head,** and not the tail; **and thou shalt be above only** and thou shalt not be beneath; if that **thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:**

Deuteronomy 28:13

We do see clearly in that scripture that the key that unlocks a promotion is obedience to God's word. Let now go to some examples of those that God promoted because they were obedient to God's word.

AND Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard an Egyptian, brought him of the hands of the Ishmaelites, which had brought him down thither.
And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.
And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and that the LORD made all that he did to prosper in his hand.
And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.

And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.

And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not aught he had, save the bread which he did eat.

And Joseph was a goodly person, and well-favoured.

And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me.

But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand;

There is none greater in this house, than I; neither hath he kept back anything from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her to lie by her, or to be with her.

And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth,

That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in a Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.

And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.

But the LORD was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

The keeper of the prison looked not to anything that was under his hand; because the LORD was with him, and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

AND it came to pass after these things, that the butler of the king of Egypt, and his baker had offended their lord the king of Egypt.

And Pharaoh was wroth against two of his officers, against the chief of the butlers, and against the chief of the bakers.

And he put them in the ward in the house of the captain of the guard, into the prison, the place where Joseph was bound.

And the captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he served them: and they continued a season in ward.

And they dreamed a dream both of them, each man his dream in one night, each man according to the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, which were bound in the prison.

And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's houses, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly today?

And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it.

And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

And the chief butler told his dream to Joseph, and said to him, in my dream, behold, a vine was before me;

And in the vine were three branches: and it was as though it budded, and her blossoms shot forth; and the clusters there of brought forth ripe grapes:

And Pharaoh's cup was in my hand: and I took the grapes, and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand.

And Joseph said unto him, This is the interpretation of it: The three branches are three days:

Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thine head, and restore thee unto thy place: and thou shalt deliver Pharaoh's cup into his hand, after the former manner when thou wast his butler.

But think on me when it shall be well with thee, and show kindness, I pray thee, unto me, and make mention of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house:

For indeed I was stolen away out of the land of the Hebrews: and here also have I done nothing that they should put me into the dungeon.

When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was good, he said unto Joseph, I also was in my dream, and, behold, I had three white baskets on my head:

And in the uppermost basket there was all manner of bake meats for Pharaoh; and the

birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head.

And Joseph answered and said, This is the interpretation thereof: The three baskets are three days:

Yet within three days shall Pharaoh lift up thy head from off thee, and shall hang thee on a tree; and the birds shall eat thy flesh from off thee.

And it came to pass the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast unto all his servants: and he lifted up the head of the chief butler and of the chief baker among his servants.

And he restored the chief butler unto his butlership again; and he gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand:

But he hanged the chief baker: as Joseph had interpreted to them.

Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgat him.

AND it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: and, behold, he stood by the river.

And, behold, there came out of the river seven well-favoured kine and fat-fleshed; and they fed in a meadow.

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them out of the river, ill-favoured and lean-fleshed kine; and stood by the other upon the brink of the river. And the ill-favoured and lean-fleshed kine did eat up the seven well-favoured and fat kine. So Pharaoh awoke.

And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream.

And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all the wise

men thereof: and Pharaoh told them his dream; but there was none that could interpret them unto Pharaoh.

Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

Pharaoh was wrath with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

And there was there with us a young man, a Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I have dreamed a dream, and there is none that can interpret it: and I have heard a say of thee, that thou canst understand a dream to interpret it.

And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph,

In my dream, behold, I stood upon the bank of the river:

And, behold, there came up out of the river seven kine, fat-fleshed and well-favoured; and they fed in a meadow:

And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill-favoured and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness:

And the lean and the ill-favoured kine did eat up the first seven fat kine:

And when they had eaten them up, it could not be known that they had eaten them; but

they were still ill-favoured, as at the beginning. So I awoke.

And I saw in my dream, and, behold, seven ears came up in one stalk, full and good:

And, behold, seven thin ears withered, thin, and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

And the thin ears devoured the seven good ones: and I told this unto magicians; but there was none that could declare it to me.

And Joseph said unto Pharaoh, The dream of Pharaoh is one: God hath showed Pharaoh what he is about to do.

The seven good kine are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years; the dream is one.

And the seven thin and ill-favoured kine that came up after them are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

This is the thing that I have spoken unto Pharaoh: What God is about to do he showeth unto Pharaoh.

Behold, there come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt:

And there shall arise after them seven years of famine; and all the plenty shall be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine shall consume the land;

And the plenty shall not be known in the land by reason of that famine following; for it shall be very grievous.

And for that the dream was doubled unto Pharaoh twice; it is because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.

Now therefore let Pharaoh look out a man discreet and wise, and set him over the land of Egypt.

Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, and take up the fifth part of the land of Egypt in the seven plenteous years.

And let them gather all the food of those good years that come, and lay up corn under the

hand of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities.

And that food shall be for store to the land against the seven years of famine, which shall be in the land of Egypt; that the land perish not through the famine.

And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom the spirit of God is?

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath showed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

Thou shalt be over my house, and according to thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it up on Joseph's hand, and

arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 39:1--41:44

From the above scriptures you can clearly see how God promoted Joseph through Potiphar, the keeper of the prison and finally Pharaoh the king of the land of Egypt. It was all because Joseph was a God - fearing man who obeyed God's commandments and shunned evil in his life and that made God to have a place in his life and that brought a whole difference in Joseph's life. You can take time and read the book of Daniel chapter 3 and 6 on Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah the latter three whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon changed their names to be called

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. These refused completely to serve the gods of king and also refused to bow down and worship the golden image that the king had set up and in the end the king promoted them in the land of Babylon; then Daniel too refused to pray to Darius the king but continued to pray only to his God as he used to and king Darius in the end ended promoting him. The four obeyed God and refused to sin against their God.

Chapter 6

On long life

In this chapter we are going to how obedience to God's word bring about long life in people's lives as is recorded in the Holy Scriptures.

But as for thee, stand thou here by me, and I will speak unto thee all the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgements, which thou shalt teach them, that they may do them in the land which I give them to possess it.
Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.
Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.

Deuteronomy 5:31-33

In the above scripture God called Moses his servant to him and gave him his commandments which he and the Israelites were to keep so that they may live and have their days prolonged.
Now if you read the following scriptures you will find the same words being repeated: Deuteronomy 6:1-2; 11:8-9, 32:45-47, 34:1-7.

And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the LORD your God. And all the congregation blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshiped the LORD, and the king.
And they sacrificed sacrifices unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings unto the LORD, on the morrow after that day, even a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, with their drink offerings and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel:
And did eat and drink before the LORD that day with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king the second

time, and anointed him unto the LORD to be the chief governor, and Za'-dok to be priest.

Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him.

And all the princes and the mighty men, and all the sons likewise of king David, submitted themselves unto Solomon the king.

And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.

Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.

And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years reigned he is He'-bron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.

And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

1 Chronicles 29:20-28

In the above scripture we do find that David the son of Jesse who was made king over all Israel by God reigned for a period of forty years and died at a good old age full of days- meaning he had lived long.

Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah.
And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak and Shu'-ah. And Jokshan begat Sheba, and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Assh-u'-rim, and Letushim, and Leummim.
And the sons of Midian; Ephah and Epher, and Hanoch, and Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah
And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.
But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country.

And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, a hundred threescore and fifteen years.

Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

Genesis 25:1-8

Abraham who was very obedient to God and proved it by his faith and God took him as his friend the father of faith died in an old age after living ling for 175 years. The key in his life was his obedience same of which are recorded as follows: Genesis 12:1-5, Genesis 22:1-18.

CHILDREN, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Ephesians 6:1-3

In the above scripture God wants children to obey and honour their parents for a life we lived and a long one. The lead key as with other scriptures is obedience and which is God's commandment.

Chapter 7

On being God's chosen

In this chapter we are going to see that in being considered as chosen by God obedience is a prerequisite.

THE word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and speak unto the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem;

And say thou unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel; **Cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant,** Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, **Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God:**

That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. then answered I, So be it, O LORD.

Then the LORD said unto me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them.

For I earnestly protested unto your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even unto this day, rising early and protesting, saying, Obey my voice.

Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked everyone in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not.

And the LORD said unto me, A conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

They are turned back to the iniquities of their fore fathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them: the house of Israel and the house of Judah

have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers.

Therefore thus saith the LORD,

Behold, I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, I will not hearken unto them.

Then shall the cities of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem go, and cry unto the gods unto whom they offer incense: but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble.

Jeremiah 11:1-12

It is a terrible thing to refuse to obey God as the scripture above says. The God of Israel is a God of covenants and had entered into a covenant with the house of Israel and which they kept not. By God bringing evil upon them is treating them as not his chosen, reason, being they have broken the covenant between them and God. God do operate in covenants as one of his principles. For more information you can read my book entitled 'The God of Covenants'.

IN the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.

And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying,

Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

Now therefore, **if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine.**

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the

words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Exodus 19:1-6

The condition that God gave to Moses the prophet of God to deliver to Israel for them to be considered as God's chose people was obedience to God's voice. So we find obedience is key even to us today as God never changes (Hebrews 13:8).

The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

Deuteronomy 28:9

Chapter 8

On peace and prosperity

In this chapter we are going to look at peace and prosperity in relation with one's obedience to God.

Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgements, and do them: and ye shall dwell in the land in safety.

And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety.

And if ye shall say, What shall we eat the seventh year? Behold, we shall not sow, nor gather in our increase:

Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

And ye shall sow the eight year, and eat yet of old fruit until the ninth year; until her fruits come in ye shall eat of the old store.

Leviticus 25:18-22

Much provisions that brings prosperity is as a result of one's obedience to God's statutes.

NOW after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the Great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.

Only be thou strong and very courageous that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Joshua 1:1- 8

Joshua the son of Nun and who God appointed to lead his people the children of Israel after the death of Moses and God gave him the key to prosperity which is obedience to the commandments of God.

Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee the profit, which leadeth thee the way that thou shouldest go.

O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

Thy seed also had been as the sand, and the offspring of thy bowels like the gravel thereof; his name should not have been cut off nor destroyed from before me.

Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth: say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob.

And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts: he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them: he clave the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

There is no peace, said the LORD, unto the wicked.

Isaiah 48:18-22

If one wants peace, let him do one thing – be obedient to the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel. If not there is no peace (verses 22) God lamented on Israel for their disobedience and wished they had obeyed him so that their peace would have been as a river-meaning much.

Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Psalm 119:165

Those who love God's laws observing to do them are the lucky ones for they have great peace from God. Peace is from God and to get it you have to please him by obeying his commandments (Isaiah 9:6, 26:1-3).

Chapter 9

On fruitfulness

In this chapter we are going to see the need for obedience in our lives that results in fruitfulness in our endeavours.

AND it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

And all those blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

Deuteronomy 28:1-5

We shall have fruits out of our labours if we are obedient to God our Maker for he shall bless us.

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.
Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.
Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.
Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.
I am the vine, ye are the branches:
He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.
If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them,

and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:1-7

Now what is this abiding in the vine, in Christ? We know that Christ is the Word of God and therefore to abide in Christ is to be in obedience to his word and that is why if one asks from God one gets as one is obedient to him. God does not bless the disobedient (John 9:31-33).

We need to appreciate the fact that the early Church of Christ was very fruitful in winning of souls to the Lord as it lived in total obedience to the Lord.

Chapter 10

On wealth

In this chapter we are going to see the relationship between obedience and being wealthy in life.

Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgements, and his statutes which I command thee this day:

Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein;

And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents and scorpions, and drought, where there was no

water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

Deuteronomy 8:11-18

God is the one that gives the power to get wealth, but he will do so to those that do obey his commandments. But you may ask 'How about those who are wicked not obeying God yet are rich?' The answer is that they get it through short cuts (through wicked means) and not through God's set principle for getting it. In this country we have some very

rich people who don't fear God why? Through unorthodox ways such as kickbacks, financial mismanagement, land grabbing, racketeering, smuggling and many other immoral activities; such are a cursed lot and are walking on very slippery ground (Psalm 73).

AND Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

Genesis 13:1-2

If you read chapter 12 of the same book you will find that first Abram had obeyed God and now, he was very rich! God blessed his obedience to him. Abram does not stop with that one obedience but goes on with it in life and for instance in chapter 22 he did the unimaginable being ready to give his beloved son Isaac to God as a burnt sacrifice in obeying God! And God was pleased with the

degree of his obedience and God multiplied his blessings on Abram (Genesis 22:1-18).

THERE was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

Job 1:1-3

Job had a wonderful credential before God and that made God to richly bless him. I believe in the Bible we don't have any human being who had such credentials. God blessed him with children plus material possessions. Although he lost all to Satan who tempted him by permission from God, God later

blessed him doubling his material possessions (Job 1, 2 & 42:10-13). Those who are rich or wealthy without God's blessing it is common for all that the riches or wealth to disappear (be lost or destroyed) and never to be found again so that one becomes a pauper.

So, for you and I, it is time we do things right from the word go.

And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour: and he made himself treasures for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels; Storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil; and stalls for all manner of beasts, and cotes for flocks.

Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance: **for God had given him substance very much.**

2 Chronicles 32:27-29

God is the one that gives wealth, riches, honour, name it. To those that live in obedience to him. Hezekiah lived in obedience (verse 1-2).

Chapter 11

On receiving the Holy Spirit and abiding in Christ

In this chapter we are going to see that to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and abiding in Christ requires obedience.

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

And I will pray the Father and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more: but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

John 14: 15-20

Jesus Christ in the above scripture was promising those who had believed in him the Holy Spirit who he was going to ask his Father to give them.

These had obeyed God's word by believing in his Son Jesus Christ and they had to continue in obeying him so that they are facilitated for the Christian life by receiving the Holy Spirit who is the helper for all believers in Christ Jesus bringing the spiritual life in them and empowering to live by him.

And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

1 John 3:24

That scripture says that the one that keeps the commandments of God (obeys them) is the one that abides in him. Jesus Christ being the word of God and the truth (John 1:1-3, Revelation 19:11-13, John 14:6). You can

read further chapter 15 of the book of John on abiding in Christ.

Chapter 12

On other blessings

In this chapter we are going to see the need for obedience on other blessings.

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me even this whole nation.

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, If I will not open you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 3:8-12

In the above scripture we are told that those that disobeyed God (Israel) for not paying their tithes and giving other offerings they were cursed and God advised them to obey him on giving in his house and he will open the gates of heaven and pour on them blessings.

The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge: and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge.

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

Proverbs 18:15-16

It is a blessing to give because giving is a commandment of God just as we had read in the earlier text in the book of Malachi.

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

Proverbs 19:17

The scripture simply means that by giving to the poor it is likened to lending to the Lord as you have obeyed the commandment on giving and a blessing is due to you going by God's principle and that blessing is being referred to as the Lord returning to you what you gave to the poor.

I have showed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, **it is more blessed to give** than to receive.

Acts 20:35

By giving to someone or in the local church one is obeying one of the many commandments of God and God is pleased and God is ready to reward one who has done it.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; **but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.**

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

As we have therefore opportunity, **let us do good unto all men,** especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:7-10

Now the above scripture does not touch say on giving only some gift but any service to another be it encouragement, giving a hand in some work, helping say a blind person to cross the road safely or children and so on. You reap what you sow be it to one's flesh (wickedness) or to the Spirit of God (righteousness) a curse or a blessing. The choice is yours and mine. As for God he is

holy, just and righteous in all his ways. Christians are in God's household, in Gods family as his children and when you help them in any way it is even more beneficial to you and so God has not discriminated others, but the truth of the matter they are special lot (the chosen of God). If you thought that I was just playing around with your mind read the following.

He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.
He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

Matthew 10:40-41

AND when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and thou be perfect.

And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

Neither shall thy name be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

And God said unto Abraham, thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee: Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money or of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.

Genesis 17:1-12

In the above scripture we find God attaching his blessing with the obedience of Abram.

AND it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee unto the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder to worship, and come again to you.

And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he

took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

And Isaac spake to Abraham his father, and said, My father; and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him; for now I

know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In thee mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 22:1-18

There you are. After Abraham obeying the voice of the Lord and went ahead to sacrifice his only son Isaac as a burnt offering as instructed, the Lord poured blessings galore on him. Now that underscores the importance of obedience as the key to all God's blessings. If that is not enough then look at the cases of Lot, the woman of Zarephath, the Shunammite woman, Rahab, Cornelius (Genesis 19; 18; 1 Kings 17, 2 Kings 4:8-38, Joshua 2 and Acts 10). God blessed them in one way or the other for what they did was righteous before God as was done in obedience to Him.

Notes to the reader

I take this opportunity to thank you for reading this book to your advantage in life as now you can unlock the blessings of God that were locked as a result of some disobedience on your part by now obeying God always,

Please feel free to give us your feedback on the book using the address given below.

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