

TESTED BY GOD, PROVEN BY OBEDIENCE

A Lord's Flock Worship Service Topic

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A **test of obedience** is a spiritual or moral trial that reveals our character. It tests our trust, loyalty, and willingness to follow God's commands instead of our own desires. In our walk with God, obedience is our willingness to submit to His will, trust His Word, and do exactly what He says (when, where and how) until it is completely done, despite His testings.



1. The people that God tested but obeyed:

1.1 **Abraham** obeyed God's instructions to offer his only son, Isaac. When God saw his willingness, He produced a ram as the sacrifice. **Genuine faith obeys even when God is asking for someone or something that we hold dear. (Gen. 22).**

1.2 **The Israelites in the Wilderness.** God delegated simple instructions to take only enough manna for each day. Some hoarded and what they kept became spoiled. **Obedient faith trusts God's daily provision (Exo 16).**

1.3 **Jesus in the Wilderness.** Jesus was tempted by the devil for 40 days. Yet, He chose to worship and serve only God. **True faith chooses obedience to God over temporary satisfaction (Mt. 4).**

1.4 **Noah** was warned about what was not yet seen but built an ark for the salvation of his household. **Faith obeys even when we cannot see it yet (Gen. 7).**

1.5 **Moses** was hesitant at first but obeyed in leading the Israelites out of Egypt. **Obedience moves us beyond our fears (Exo. 3).**

1.6 Mother Mary said: *"May it be done to me according to your word"* (Lk. 1:38). **True obedience surrenders to God's will.**

2 TWO TYPES OF OBEDIENCE

2.1 **Constructive Obedience** follows instructions or rules that benefit society, keep people safe, and assist others.

2.2 **Destructive Obedience** carries out orders that cause harm, break moral choice or codes because they come from people in authority.

3 FOUR DRIVERS OF OBEDIENCE

3.1 **Fear-based** means being afraid of getting in trouble or facing negative consequences.

3.2 **Reward-based** expects benefits, blessings or rewards (Lk. 6:38).

3.3 **Duty-based** recognizes responsibility and sense of duty (Rom. 13).

3.4 **Love-based** is driven by genuine love for God and desire to please Him (Jn. 14:15).

4 Proven Obedience brings

4.1 **abundant blessings, success, and prosperity for the rest of our lives and are cascaded to children and siblings (Job 36:11).** Meditating on God's Word and obeying it leads to success and prosperity (Josh. 1:8).

4.2 **a heart after God's own heart.** Obedience shapes our character to draw us closer to God (1 Sam. 13).

4.3 **miracles from God.** At the wedding in Cana, Mary told the servants: *"Whatever He says to you, do it"* (Jn. 2:5). Obedience unleashes the power of God.

4.4 **proof of our love for God.** Jesus said: *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments"* (Jn 14:15).

4.5 **access to the Kingdom of God.** Only those who hear and do the will of the Father will enter the Kingdom of God (Mt. 7:21).

5 SEVEN (7) WAYS OF TESTING

5.1 **Waiting Test** is a long delay that tests our patience and trust in God's timing.

5.2 **Wilderness Test** is a season of isolation or a dark night of soul which is a temporary spiritual state - an absolute absence of God's presence.

5.3 **Service Test** concerns tasks and responsibilities that make us uncomfortable or inconvenienced.

5.4 **Provision Test** is financial, physical, or other limitations that test our dependence on God.

5.5 **People Test** means receiving unfair treatment ("anointed tribulator") that tests our love, forgiveness, patience, and willingness to treat others with God's love.

5.6 **Silence Test** is a test of our loyalty and trust when God seems quiet (Phil. 4:12).

5.7 **Success Test** is a test of humility when God blesses us with success, recognition, and the ability to generate wealth.

CONCLUSION: Obedience reveals what is in our hearts and opens our spiritual eyes. **When we are tested by God, we are proven by our obedience.**

REFLECTION: What is God asking you to do right now? How can you obey when you find it difficult?

SCRIBES Ministry

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