

“Grace & Peace to You”

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

Voice of China and Asia

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ROMANS-Lesson 8 Part 1: THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

We naturally tie the idea of “*obedience*” to rules, laws, orders. And that IS how it is generally used. But in the NEW TESTAMENT, “*obedience*” is more closely connected with the idea of “*faith*.”

We will be continuing our study of **The Letter to the Romans** by reviewing how the phrase “*the obedience of faith*” can be seen as a theme of the entire Letter. Nearly every subject of Paul's teaching returns to the necessity to “*let faith be our obedient response*” to God's Word, to His Promise, to His Law, and in the Church Age to the GOSPEL.

SO NOW... it is THE **GOSPEL** that has replaced THE **LAW**. And “*the obedience of faith*” is the ONLY proper response to the **GOSPEL**.

THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

ROM 1:5B “...to bring about the obedience of faith...”

- **Obedience** – “Hupakouo” – to “*be under what is heard*” – requires “*hearing*” THEN “*responding*” – *that is what we would call obedience*”
- OUR responsibility when we “sit-under” the Word of God is “FAITH” – That IS HOW we OBEY
- The “GOSPEL” demands a response... - BELIEVE!
- You OBEY & BELIEVE (*have Faith*) unto Eternal Life-
- Or You REJECT and REMAIN LOST –

ISA 7:5 “If you will not believe [stand in FAITH] ...
surely you SHALL NOT be established [Stand AT ALL]”

“**Established**” - Stand-Fast / Remain Secure / Continue

God has NEVER been pleased by those who “DO” without the element of “*the obedience of faith*” – the HEART must be involved

ISA 1:12-20

PSALM 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

³¹ This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs.

COL 1:5 We know that you are showing these qualities because you have grasped the hope reserved for you in Heaven – that hope which first became yours when the truth was brought to you. It is, of course, part of the GOSPEL itself, which has reached you as it spreads all over the world. Wherever that GOSPEL goes, IT produces Christian character, and develops it, as it had done in your own case from the time you first heard and realized the amazing fact of God's grace.

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN "THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH"

Adam / Eve – Do... Do NOT... - God Spoke... they Rejected

Noah – By FAITH Noah Prepared... - Noah HEARD... and OBEYED with "FAITH"

Abraham – A Promise of Nations... Begins with a Son...

Moses – "I AM the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob..." –

God: Saw... Heard... Knew... He Came to Deliver... BY PROMISE!

THE LAW

ACTS 13:39 "...and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

GAL 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by THE LAW, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

ROMANS-Lesson 8 Part 2: THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

GAL 3:27-28 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith.²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith APART from works of THE LAW.

OBEDIENCE OF FAITH AS A THEME...

Time and again in the Letter this "theme" can be found. From beginning to end, Paul uses Examples, Quotations, Teachings, and Exhortations to rehearse the principle of "the obedience of faith."

ALL HUMANITY... - ROM 1:18-19 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

THE UNRIGHTEOUS... - ROM 1:21; 24 "For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened...²⁴ Therefore God gave them up..."

THE "GOOD"... - ROM 2:4⁴ Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

THE JEWS... - ROM 2:17-24 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God¹⁸ and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from THE LAW;¹⁹ and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness,²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in THE LAW the embodiment of knowledge and truth—²¹ you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself?

²³ You who boast in THE LAW dishonor God by breaking THE LAW.²⁴ For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

THE "SINNER" ... - ROM 3:19-20 Now we know that whatever THE LAW says it speaks to those who are under THE LAW, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of THE LAW no human being will be justified in his sight, since through THE LAW comes knowledge of sin. ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...

ABRAHAM... - ROM 4:3-5; 13-21 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness...

¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

JESUS VS ADAM... - ROM 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—

¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

THE BELIEVER'S WAR AGAINST THE FLESH... - ROM 6:12-14 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

THE BELIEVER'S LIFE IN THE SPIRIT... - ROM 8:5-6 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

ISRAEL... - ROM 9-11 [9:1-5] For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

ESAU VS JACOB... - ROM 9:6-13

PHAROAH VS MOSES... - ROM 9:14-18

UNBELIEVING ISRAEL... - ROM 10-11

THE BELIEVER'S LIFESTYLE... - ROM 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do

not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

THE BELIEVER'S RELATIONSHIPS... - ROM 13 & 14

ALL men EVERYWHERE...

ROM 1:5c-6 "...for the sake of his name among all the nations,⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ..."

God has established ONE way in which ALL will come to salvation: THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

ROM 15:8-12 For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."¹⁰ And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."¹² And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

ACTS 17:30-31 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

ACTS 2:36-39

ACTS 13:44-47 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the multitudes [of Gentiles], they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.

⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us: "I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for [bring] salvation to the ends of the earth."