

Monday, 10 October 2016 Deuteronomy 30:16-18

If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and **the LORD your God will bless you** in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. **But if your heart turns away**, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. **You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.**

I have been impressed, as I searched Deuteronomy for instances of the LORD, God the Almighty's regard for obedience, that the sheer multiplicity of examples is overwhelming. The blessing for obedience is rich in scope leaving nothing to desire; the penalty for disobedience was total and permanent separation from Him.

Praise Him, grace and mercy have intervened. The penalty for my sin has been paid in full. But obedience is still expected if I want to enjoy the righteousness, peace and joy of life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now. BUT--the Helper, the Comforter has been sent to bring the Word constantly before me and to lead me into all truth. Praise the LORD, God the Almighty.

Tuesday, 11 October 2016 Deuteronomy 34:9

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

It still continues today that there are ones among us whom the Spirit has filled with wisdom and leadership. *Ephesians 4:11-13* "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **to equip the saints for the work of ministry**, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,"

How often do I shrug my shoulders and say to myself, "Let the pastor take care of the ministry stuff, it's his job." WRONG! It's my job, his is to equip me.

Wednesday, 12 October 2016 Judges 2:17

Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods

and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD, and they did not do so.

Israel whored after Molech, the god of the Canaanites who demanded the sacrifice of children. Children thrown alive into an iron idol heated to a red hot heat.

Judges 2:20

So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he said, "Because this people have transgressed my covenant that I commanded their fathers and have not obeyed my voice,

Leviticus 20:1-5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. I myself will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given one of his children to Molech, to make my sanctuary unclean and to profane my holy name. And if the people of the land do at all close their eyes to that man when he gives one of his children to Molech, and do not put him to death, then I will set my face against that man and against his clan and will cut them off from among their people, him and all who follow him in whoring after Molech.

Strong words! The LORD, God the Almighty hates the sin of Molech. We continue today but have changed Molech's name; he is now the god of Choice. The LORD does not change. He hates the god of Choice. Is this why the church in the West is so weak and flabby? 63,000,000 sacrifices in this country alone to the god of Choice, cry out before the Throne of Grace for justice.

Thursday, 13 October 2016 1 Samuel 8:7, 9

And the LORD said to Samuel, "Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them...Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

We have paid an enormous price for our loyalty to the god of Choice in social and economic costs. What cures for disease have not been discovered? What works of art have been lost forever? The cost of the lost GDP is estimated to be in the

trillions of dollars. Well documented, peer reviewed studies have established the social costs: increased depression, addiction, medical problems and suicide among post-abortative women when compared to women who have carried their child to term. 63,000,000 of our citizens, roughly 1/3 of our nation murdered to serve the god of Choice. And we expect the LORD, God the Almighty to turn a blind eye to the silence of His Church? Reread and reread and reread Leviticus 20:1-5

*Friday, 14 October 2016 1 Samuel 15:22
And Samuel said, "Has 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 listen than the fat of rams.*

Listen and obey! Both should be the guiding elements of my life from 12:30 Sunday afternoon to 10:30 AM the following Sunday. The LORD, God the Almighty desires that His people, who are called by His Name, should walk in total obedience to Him in every aspect of their lives. My life must bring glory and honor to Him.

*Saturday, 15 October 2016 Psalms 4:5-8
Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.
There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?
Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"
You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.
In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.*

LORD, bring me into a state of obedience, trust and faith. May every night's sleep be the sleep of one who knows without doubt that You are the one who controls every aspect my life. May my life be one of living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to You as my spiritual act of worship.

*Lord's Day, 16 October 2016 Psalm 119:161
Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of your words.*

Not just princes but drug addicts and alcoholics despise me and ignore Your law. How can I continue to bring Your Word to bear in the face of hostility and refusal? Help me, Lord.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



October 10-16, 2016

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been a 27-year search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the Lord, God the Almighty.*

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.

*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.