

Eternity Daily Bible Study

"Walking As He Walked": Living By Christ's Commandments

Studies in this series can also be found online at www.globalchristians.org/walkchrist/

Topic: 4 – On Earth As It Is In Heaven

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This study is full of powerful spiritual concepts that may take a few readings to fully understand. It looks at how important our obedience is not just for ourselves but for the whole world!

Matthew 6:10 MKJV *Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.*

This verse from the Lord's Prayer reveals that Jesus desired that God's will be performed on earth, in such a way that it reflects even the obedience of the very angels in Heaven. Jesus wanted us to pray for this perfect obedience, and if we are to pray for it, then we are obviously also to practice it as we are able to do so (in the power of the Holy Ghost).

When we carry out this holy obedience God's Kingdom comes. God appears in our very midst as our King. The Almighty is seen to rule over the hearts, minds, speech and actions of men and women. Thus 'walking as He walked' is an intentional act that sees God's Heavenly will done here on Earth. In a way obedience "reconnects" Heaven and Earth.

When God created the Garden of Eden and put Adam and Eve in its midst He created a very spiritual place, a holy place, where Heaven and Earth met and where even trees had unusual and spiritual powers. Eden was a place where God walked with man. Man's obedience (for a while) kept Eden intact. However man's disobedience shattered this holy vale and tore apart the connection between Heaven and Earth. We were cast out!

When this happened life suddenly went from blessed to cursed, from wonder-filled and glorious to dreary, frustrating and painful. Disobedience thrust us out from the place of Kingdom blessing. God's will was no longer being done on earth as it was in heaven so Heaven became inaccessible and a Great Curse settled over the land that was only broken by the Flood, the end of that age and the faith and obedience of Noah.

After Noah came Abraham the father of all who are of faith. Heaven and Earth began to reconnect at altars and wherever people "called on the name of the Lord" by faith and holy living. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were consecrated to God, living in tents, as strangers and aliens. Despite their faults they were still holy men of faith, visited by angels, seeing visions and walking with God. Four hundred years later, under Moses God created a consecrated people in the descendants of these patriarchs.

A tabernacle was constructed, and later a Temple, as the place where God met with men and women who sought Him. It became the one holy location where Earth could connect with Heaven through the blood of sacrifices and the faith of the saints.

Yet this Temple made of stone was temporary and provisional and would be replaced by a greater Temple and a more perfect tabernacle (Hebrews chapters 9 & 10). God would meet with us Himself in Christ. With Christ God comes to earth. Jesus Christ is the fulness of deity in bodily form (Colossians 2:9, John 1:1-18). Jesus perfectly carries out the law, perfectly lives by faith, and perfectly offers Himself as a sacrifice for our sins upon the Cross (Hebrews 9:13). God's will is finally being done on earth as it is in Heaven and God's Kingdom arrives in power !

With Christ's death on the Cross He died between Earth and Heaven and thus brought them into alignment. Just as death entered the world through Adam's disobedience so eternal life entered the world through Christ's perfect obedience (Romans 5:14-21).

Romans 5:18-19 MKJV *Therefore as by one offense sentence came on all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of One the free gift came to all men to justification of life. (19) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.*

So we find that obedience and disobedience are far more than just personal choices, or even moral imperatives. Each act of obedience is a triumph of God's sovereignty and has cosmic results. Indeed our obedience affects the relationship between Heaven and Earth and thus affects all of Creation! Obedience lets God's life freely and abundantly flow into Creation to bless it . Disobedience turns off the switch so that God's life is barred from the world and sin and death rule over Creation.

Romans 5:12 MKJV *Therefore, even as through one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed on all men inasmuch as all sinned:*

Romans 6:23 MKJV *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

But there is hope, as God forms for Himself a holy people, indwelt by the Spirit who reconnect Heaven and Earth and thus liberate all of Creation from bondage:

Romans 8:19-22 MKJV *For the earnest expectation of the creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was not willingly subjected to vanity, but because of Him who subjected it on hope (21) that the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. (22) And we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now.*

So we see that the whole Creation waits for the manifestation of the 'sons of God' – for a faith-filled, holy and obedient people who will do God's will on Earth as it is done in Heaven and who will dwell as sons of the Most High on the face of the Earth. This will bring about Creation's renewal. It will bring about glory and freedom. There will be a new Heaven and a new Earth where God will dwell with men because they will be in perfect agreement:

Revelation 21:1-5 MKJV *And I saw a new heaven and a new earth. For the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And the sea no longer is. (2) And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven, prepared as a*

bride adorned for her Husband. (3) And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. (4) And God will wipe away all tears from their eyes. And there will be no more death, nor mourning, nor crying out, nor will there be any more pain; for the first things passed away. (5) And He sitting on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said to me, Write, for these words are true and faithful.

When the sons of God are revealed, sin and death will be destroyed. The ability of sin to separate us from God and to separate God from us and to sunder Earth and Heaven apart will be broken forever. There will be no more death, crying, sorrow or pain. These things will be replaced by life and holiness and eternal glory.

Now the process of becoming a glorious son of God starts with faith and then follows in the Spirit-led footsteps of Jesus:

Galatians 3:26 MKJV *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.*

Romans 8:14 MKJV *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

The sons of God are a faith-filled, Spirit-led people. Now the Holy Spirit will always lead us into holy paths of righteousness and into full obedience of the commandments of Jesus Christ. As we prayerfully, carefully obey Christ in the power of the Spirit we move into new areas of authority and of supernatural power that does not come from us or from human effort but which is "born of God"

John 1:12-13 MKJV *But as many as received Him, He gave to them authority to become the children of God, to those who believe on His name, (13) who were born, not of bloods, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but were born of God.*

As we continue to obey Christ despite persecution, trials and tribulation we "overcome" the world, the flesh and the Devil and receive an eternal inheritance:

Revelation 21:6-7 MKJV *And He said to me, It is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who thirsts I will give of the fountain of the Water of Life freely. (7) He who overcomes will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son.*

All of this puts our obedience in context. Our obedience to Christ's commandments is directly connected to the ending of the power of sin and death, and the glorious restoration of all Creation. Christ as the perfectly obedient Son of God opened the way for us to believe and receive the power to move in the Holy Spirit in all righteousness and truth.

So as we do this series on "Walking As He Walked" we should do so knowing that obeying Christ's commandments leads to Heaven and Earth reconnecting, to Creation being liberated from bondage and to wonderful things breaking forth from God. Obedience brings glory to God, glory to the sons of God and glory to all Creation. There are eternal ramifications that flow from even the most humble act of true service.

Blessings,

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