

Matt. 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.** 22 Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

1 Cor 15:1-2

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, **2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.**

1 Tim. 4:16

Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine.
**Continue in them, for in doing this you will
save both yourself and those who hear you.**

Heb. 5:7-9

Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, 8 though He was a Son, *yet* He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, **He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,**

Kinds of Obedience

- Some kinds are not acceptable
 - Partial (1 Sam. 15:10-23)
 - Ceremonial (Isa. 1:10-18)
 - Hypocritical (Matt. 23:23)
- One is - From the Heart (Rom. 6:17)

Making Our Obedience Right Before God

- By preparing our heart
 - Ezra set his heart to seek God (Ezra 7:10)

“For Ezra had prepared his **heart** to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.”

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- By believing in Him (1 Jno. 5:4; Heb. 3:12)

July, 2004 Dallas Morning News

- 52% believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God but not every thing in it should be taken literally
- 30% believe that the Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally
- 15% believe that the Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts recorded by man

July, 2004 Wall Street Journal

- Of teens who say that they are Christians
 - 60% believe that the Bible is totally accurate in all its teachings
 - 56% feel that religious life is very important
 - Yet, over 50% believe that Jesus committed sins on earth
 - 60% believe that good works will earn them a place in heaven
 - About 66% say that Satan is a symbol of evil – not a real being
 - Only 6% believe in moral absolutes
 - And only 9% believe that moral truth is absolute

Making Our Obedience Right Before God

■ By trusting Him

■ Job trusted him regardless (Job 13:15)

- “Though He **slay** me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.”
- Think of what Job went through – still he trusted Him

■ Can we trust Him when He promises:

- An abundant life? (Jno. 10:10)
- Punishment for the wicked? (Rom. 2:4-9)
- Heaven to the faithful? (Matt. 25:46)

Making Our Obedience Right Before God

- By following Jesus' example (Matt. 26:36-46)

Making Our Obedience Right Before God

- By following Jesus' example (Matt. 26:36-46)
- By letting Jesus dwell in us (Eph. 3:14-20; Gal. 2:20)