



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Lesson 10**

### The Curse of Rebellion The Blessing of Obedience

Rebellion, not obeying God, is very serious in the kingdom of God. The Bible gives us warnings about it and examples of people who were rebellious and what happened to them so that we will avoid their mistakes.

To start this lesson read Deuteronomy 28:15-68. List two curses of not following God's law below.

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One very dramatic result of rebellion can be found in the book of Jonah. What did God tell Jonah to do in Jonah 1:1-2?

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What was Jonah's response to God's command in Jonah 1:3?

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Read Jonah 1:4-17. Because of his rebellion where did Jonah end up (verse 17)?

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If you read the rest of the book of Jonah, you will find out that he eventually obeyed God and shared God's word with the people of Nineveh. The whole city responds and repents. But we don't remember Jonah for this great evangelistic outreach; he is remembered for the time he spent with a fish.

We can learn a lot about rebellion from the story of King Saul in 1 Samuel 15:1-35. What did God command Saul to do in verse 3?

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According to verses 7-9 how did Saul carry out God's command?

- He obeyed completely.
- He totally ignored God's command.
- He did part of what God commanded.

In verses 11-12 God told Samuel the prophet what had happened and so Samuel went to confront Saul.

In verse 13 as Samuel approaches Saul what does Saul say to him?

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Saul's reaction to seeing the prophet of God was to lie, a common human response when someone knows that they have done wrong. Samuel already knows the truth from God but also the evidence of Saul's disobedience surrounds him. Saul is caught. He reacts to being caught in verse 15 by passing the blame and having a good excuse for his rebellion.

Who does he pass the blame to? \_\_\_\_\_

What is his excuse for not obeying God, what were the plans for the saved animals?

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In 1 Samuel 15:23 Samuel tells Saul that \_\_\_\_\_ is as the sin of \_\_\_\_\_. It is serious! Saul went on to be king for a time, some of the consequences didn't kick in right away, but he had lost God's anointing and call because of his rebellion.

The story of Balaam is another example of rebellion. The people of Israel had escaped from Egypt and were traveling to the land that God had promised to them. They were passing through Moab and Balak, king of Moab, was afraid of them so he sent messengers to ask Balaam, a prophet, to come and curse them for him. According to Numbers 22:12 what did God tell Balaam to do?

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Balak sent more men and offered more money and instead of reminding them of God's first response Balaam went to ask God about going with them again. God relented and allowed him to go. In verses 21-34 God sends an angel to stop Balaam. Who first sees the angel?

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What miracle happened in verses 28-30?

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Balaam repents for his rebellion, but he doesn't head back home, he asks again about going with the men Balak had sent. Once he arrives to where Balak is at in Numbers 23 and 24 he tries to curse Israel but cannot. How many times does he bless instead of curse Israel?

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The end of Balaam's life is recorded in Numbers 31:8 and his influence upon God's people is made known in Numbers 31:16. How did he influence Israel?

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What does Proverbs 17:11 say about a man who seeks rebellion?

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The opposite of rebellion, obedience, has its rewards. Read Deuteronomy 28:1-14 and list two of the blessings of obeying God's word.

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What does Isaiah 1:19 promise if we are willing and obedient?

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Sometimes we won't understand why we should obey, and the command may not make sense to us we just need obey. Read Acts 9:1-19. When God called Ananias to help Saul, a man who hated the Christians, what was Ananias' first response in verses 13-14?

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God reassured Ananias in verses 15-16. How did Ananias respond in verse 17?

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Saul went on to become the Apostle Paul. He was an important influence in the beginning of the Christian church and to us today. His writings make up a good part of the New Testament.

The story of Joseph in Genesis 37-50 is an example of how obedience at first may be difficult, but its rewards are sure. In Genesis 37:5-9 Joseph receives God's call upon his life in the form of dreams. How did Joseph's brothers respond to his father's favor and God's call on his life in Genesis 37:11?

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What did his brothers do to him in Genesis 37:24 and in verses 27-28?

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Joseph was taken to Egypt and sold to Potiphar. He excelled in his position in Potiphar's house eventually becoming overseer of the house. But Potiphar's wife lusted after him and tried to entice him. He refused her, so she falsely accused him of harming her. What was the result in Genesis 39:20?

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This was a far cry from the call that God had on his life and not the result you would expect for obeying God's law.

In Genesis 41 everything changed. What happened in Genesis 41:39-41?

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Joseph's dream finally came true and God used him to save the area from famine, including his own family who eventually came to live with him in Egypt. His obedience was rewarded.

Read Philippians 2:5-11. Verse 8 teaches us that we cannot be proud and obedient we must be h\_\_\_\_\_.

In verse 8 where did obedience lead Jesus to?

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How did God respond to Jesus' obedience (verses 9-11)?

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Hebrews 5:8 says that Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ obedience by the things that He \_\_\_\_\_.

According to Hebrews 5:9 unto whom is Jesus the author of salvation?

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In John 14:15 Jesus says that if we \_\_\_\_\_ Him we will \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.

John 14:21 says it again, a way to prove that we \_\_\_\_\_ Him is to \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

Obedying God should not be difficult. An important thing to remember is what 1 John 4:8 says. What is God according to this verse? \_\_\_\_\_

If God loves us, He always has our best in mind. He sees the end from the beginning and knows all things. If He asks you to obey something it is a result of His love. You can trust Him.

If you have disobeyed God, practice what 1 John 1:9 says. What does this verse say?

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Increase your love for God by spending time with Him. This and His power in and through you as we covered in Lesson 9 will help you to obey.



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