

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 48

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit

Spiritual Adoption

&

Obedience

Part 7

Sunday, May 29, 2011

Heb 5:8 "Although He was a Son (of the Father in Heaven), He learned obedience from the things which He suffered."

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. *(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."* *(John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*



Lesson



In our last lesson, we learned about the unique suffering of the humanity of our Savior, Jesus Christ...a fact that should make us fall to our knees everyday in thanksgiving for what He suffered in our place. I hope you thank Him daily many times! His love for us is that great. We know we cannot begin to understand His suffering and we'll never be able to pay Him back but we must be grateful and learn from Him and obey Him.



Just because Jesus became a man didn't mean He had an easy life here on earth and we know it was quite the opposite...hard work spiritually and physically for our Lord. He obeyed His earthly parents and He studied God's Word everyday in the synagogue...the Jewish temple for worship. He learned to be a carpenter early on and continued His earthly father, Joseph's work after Joseph died when Jesus was a young man. He worked hard. He was the oldest and therefore, had to earn money for His family after His dad died.

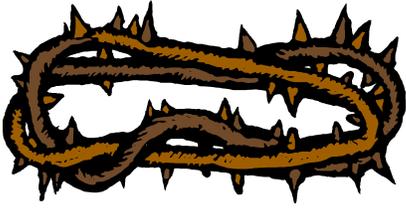
Another possible way Jesus suffered as a young Person was that He probably suffered ridicule from his brothers and sisters because He never sinned. He must have been His mother's pet child because of it but I'm sure He received lots of jeers and nasty remarks from his brothers and sisters. There is a lesson to be learned from this and that is that to suffer is to learn. Jesus learned from His suffering just like we do. He had peace in His suffering because He knew His heavenly Father was ALWAYS with Him. The difference between Him and us is that he obeyed ALL THE TIME!!!!

Obedience is a good subject to study and to learn in Bible class and that's just what we are going to do today. So kids, today we will suffer through the subject of obedience!!! Pun intended!!!! Remember to suffer together, or on behalf of another, or to have another suffer on your behalf, is to form stronger bonds of love between two people. We do our best to help others especially our brothers and sisters in Christ who maybe suffering. You can help. You should REALLY love each other after learning this lesson!!!!

Suffering and obedience to the Father's will produce the virtues and characteristics of Christ in us. [Heb 5:8](#) "Although He was a Son (of the Father in Heaven); He learned obedience from the things which He suffered." By the way, Jesus was delighted to obey His Father's will. And if we obey as Jesus did, we will be more like Him and produce His characteristics or nature especially in our treatment of one another.

In the Greek, to "obey" means to hear a command (for instance...the Word of God) and do what it tells us to do. [Heb 5:9](#) "And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who OBEY Him..." We are the beneficiaries of eternal life by obeying His call to believe in His Son. Now that is the best!

The word *hupakoe* is a Greek word that is not found in use by worldly authors, and very rarely even in the Greek Old Testament (called the Septuagint). So *hupakoe* is a specialized word that refers to the obedience of one who obeys the rules from God's commands. The verb is used for one who receives the Word of God by hearing and then puts it into action...applies it. So *hupakoe* is a word of application when it comes to Bible doctrine. In other words, you have to do it!!!



The cross was all application. Jesus had to obey the command to go to the cross in order to save mankind. [Heb 5:8](#) above that we just read does not say that the Son of God learned obedience by the things He studied. He learned obedience by the things He suffered!!! We're the same. We can hear it and never obey it until suffering comes along to change our mind. [1 Peter 1:1-2](#) "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ: To the temporary residents of the Dispersion in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and

Bithynia, chosen (2) according to the foreknowledge of God the Father and *set apart by the Spirit for obedience* and for the sprinkling with the blood (spiritual death) of Jesus Christ. May grace and peace be multiplied to you." [1 Peter 1:14-16](#) "As **obedient children**, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance (when you were unbelievers and slaves to your sin nature only), (15) but like the Holy One (Jesus) who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; (16) because it is written, 'YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.'" In other words, be like HIM! [1 Peter 1:22-24](#) "Since you have in **obedience** to the *truth* purified your souls for a sincere *love of the brethren* (your brothers and sisters in Christ), fervently love one another from the heart, (23) for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God." [Col 3:20](#) "Children, be **obedient** to your parents in *all things*, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord."

The real meaning of our son-ship to the Father is found in obedience. Again let's look at [Heb 5:8](#). "Although He was a Son (deity...GOD), He learned obedience (in His humanity) from the things which He suffered (in His humanity)." Out of the many and specific experiences of suffering Jesus experienced, He came to hold onto the entire picture of what it means for a human being to remain in obedience to the Father's plan even through the suffering.

So let's look at a few points about obedience:

1. **Obedience is something that has to be learned by doing.** You can't learn about obedience by watching someone else do it. You have to do it yourself. Our Lord had to learn obedience by performing it. Obedience is a like learning a trade that you become an apprentice to until you have learned and mastered that trade. There is no other way. It was in the accomplishment of obeying His Father in all things that our Lord became actually, completely acquainted with what was involved in perfect obedience to the will of God. That will led Him to being obedient all the way to the cross and on the way to the cross to the Garden of Gethsemane and that great temptation He overcame when He cried out "Not my will but Yours be done". And He became the black belt in obedience as it were at the moment He cried out "Tetelestai" it is finished! He had been fully trained to do His Father's will at the cross and He learned it through suffering!!!
2. **We must follow in Jesus' footsteps and do our best to obey the will of God because this is what it means to be a son...and adult son of God.** [Prov 4:10-13](#) "Hear, my son, and accept my sayings and the years of your life will be many. (11) I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths. (12) When you walk, your steps will not be held back; and if you run, you will not stumble. (13) Obey instruction; do not let go. Guard her, for she is your life."
3. **You cannot be truly happy except through obedience to the plan of God.** [John 15:10-11](#) "If you keep My commandments, you will live in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and live in His love. (11) These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full."
4. **Obeying authority is the mark of the mature son or daughter of God.** There are many believers who are fine with serving and participating in the congregation as long as they can do whatever they want and have their own way. But as soon as they are required to be the servants of others for the cause of Christ or have to sacrifice so others may be lifted up, they react and rebel and will have no part of that. Mature believers deny their own wants to serve others.
5. **The obedience that the adult sons and daughters have to the plan of God cannot be learned except by suffering.** Christ was the perfect Son of God, and yet even He learned by experience through suffering. Suffering is the ultimate test to prove out any virtue (the character or nature of God). It produces fruit through the filling of the Spirit. This includes patience, loyalty, love, joy, peace, faithfulness, self control of which YOU all are familiar with. Don't just be familiar with it...produce it as well!!!
6. **Perfect obedience under the covering of intense suffering is what settled the angelic conflict.** Satan disobeyed under perfect environment when there was no suffering that came out of

obedience. Christ obeyed the will of His Father perfectly even though that meant He had to undergo excruciating suffering. Christ could not suffer in the area of dying as God, but He could suffer in the area of death as a human being. Again [Heb 5:8](#) tells us that Jesus Christ in His humanity had to learn by experience in situations of suffering the real issue when it comes to hearing the will of God as a command and obeying it. Why? Why did the perfect Son of God have to go through this? Why did He have to be made perfect, made complete in His humanity, tested as it were and found to be fully qualified to go to the cross...PERFECT? Why was it that the only way He could experience this thing whatever it is was by means of His own personal suffering? The reason is that this whole mess got started when a certain angel who was created in perfection decided that he did not want to obey the Lord Jesus Christ any longer. So Satan rebelled. That was the first sin. A creature decided he did not want to obey the One he was under in authority. Satan sinned without being tempted. Satan sinned without EVER suffering!!!! There was no suffering involved for Satan in submitting to the Lord Jesus Christ. But now Jesus Christ comes on the scene and He is in perfect obedience to His Father's will and there **IS** suffering involved with that. In order to win the angelic conflict, Jesus had to demonstrate that it is possible for a human being to remain obedient to the Father's will under all conditions, including those of horrible undeserved suffering. He proved it, too!!! Obeying God's will did not cost Satan any suffering at all!!! Obeying God's will does result in suffering for God's human children...us!!! And this just frustrates the living daylights out of Satan and it's another nail in his coffin!!!! He can't believe we would suffer for anyone else let alone ourselves for Christ sake!!!! It kills him.



7. **Obedience is never completely learned until a person is face to face with suffering and his character is put to the test.** When you are suffering and you continue to believe, continue to hope, continue to love...that faith, hope and love is the real thing. [1 Peter 1:6-7](#) "In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials (suffering), (7) so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ..." We will never come to a perfect obedience until we have passed through suffering, for that is the only way it can be perfected. Whatever it might cost us to learn obedience, it will be nothing in comparison to what it cost our Lord. You can learn to thank God for the suffering that comes your way when you obey His word, because this is your preparation for living in the happiness of eternal life.



We have seen the great comfort that we share with Christ to be able to cry out "Abba" when we are in dire straits...SUFFERING! Remember He never sends us more than we can handle in the filling of the Holy Spirit and in the plan of God. [1 Co 10:13](#) "No temptation (suffering) has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted (suffer) beyond your ability, but with the temptation (suffering) He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

The real meaning of son-ship is obedience. Some believers NEVER learn to obey and they give up having great happiness from God because of their disobedience!!!! This is really stupid, kids. This is a big problem. In fact, you may not realize it, but this is probably the biggest problem in the universe. Why do I say that?

Well you will have to come back next time to find out, okay?

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on December 12, 2010
Lighthouse Bible Church

