

Preparing for Pentecost Day 1 5/22/20

Obedience- Acts 1:4,12- commanded to wait in Jerusalem, they waited!

A few things on obedience-

Samuel and Saul- destroy Amalekites.

1Sa 15:12-24 So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; and he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal." Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD." But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed." Then Samuel said to Saul, "Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night." And he said to him, "Speak on." So, Samuel said, "When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel? Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed. 'Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?' And Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal." So 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 heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king." Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice."

Fact- obedience is better than sacrifice! Rebellion is like witchcraft! Stubbornness is like idolatry! Fearing people brings a snare, Prov 29:25.

Jesus-

Joh 14:15 "If you love Me, obey My commandments.

Obedience is a precursor to Holy Spirit- In prison, miraculously released-

Act 5:20-21 "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught.

Simple obedience!

High Priest-

Act 5:28-32 "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Friends- as we prepare for Pentecost, let's make obedience a starting point.

Q. Is there an area of obedience that needs resolve in your life? Something to do? Something to stop?

Communion-

Prayer-