

OBEDIENCE THE KEY TO VICTORY

By

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God says my people desire a breakthrough; thieves and burglars breakthrough. He says the key of all victories is obedience.

You breakthrough when you do not have the key, but when you have your key you unlock the door and go through. When you have lost your keys then you can break the door and enter.

There are three (3) levels of obedience which guarantee every victory. God said ***"..by strength shall no man prevail."*** (1 Sam 2:9b), How then shall we prevail? David said ***"Through God we shall do valiantly"*** (Ps 60::12). We shall do exploits; we shall have victories through God. How?

The first level that guarantees victory is:

1. Obedience to His commands.

Jn 14:2 "He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him."

When you obey the command, the instruction, the word of the Lord, God says He will manifest Himself, He will show up on your behalf. When Israel wanted to go to war in those days they went with the Ark of the Covenant. Why? So that God may show up on their behalf. When God shows up victory is guaranteed.

The same way too He says if you obey my command I will show up: I will show up in your business, your home and your concerns, I will manifest Myself unto you. The reverse is the case when I do not obey: He will not manifest Himself, and then I seek a breakthrough.

Mine is to obey as commanded. When I obey He shows up. When you are found in obedience no devil can touch you. They know it. God says I will manifest Myself.

Maybe they told you that before you pass your exams or before you get promoted to the next level in your office you must sleep with your boss. "A" did it, "B" did it, "C" did it, and they all got promoted though they're your junior. But because you did not do it you are not promoted as it were. Stay firm, refuse to do it. Let your saying so not be because you don't like it, but because God commanded it. There is a difference because your motive is very important. Not because they say it's not good, but because God says "do not". That becomes your defense and amour.

When you obey, and the man begins to harass your life because you refused based on God's commandment to do what He says do, watch God show up. He will either die, get sick and never recover, get transferred, demoted or sacked; just watch. When they try you like that it's because their cup is full. They are at their bus-stop therefore their evil work will stop with you. You just obey.

2. Obey the voice of your conscience: Follow the wordless voice of your conscience because oftentimes God will guide you through your conscience

2 Cor. 1:12 ***“For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation (or conduct) in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward”.***

It says ***“For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience”***

What is your conscience telling you? Is it accusing you or excusing you? Is it condemning you or vindicating you? If your conscience is condemning you, examine your position. In 1Jn 3:20 it says ***“if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things”.***

Whatever you want to do, whatever you have done, your conscience has a testimony. Before you move at all, your conscience has a testimony about it. What it allows you to do, do it; what it says do not do, don't do it. If you do what it says do, you have victory, if you allow what it says don't do, you loose.

Your conscience is the glass that holds the wine of faith. If you break the glass you spill the wine. Without a good conscience there can be no faith. You can never show God's kind of faith without a good conscience; it is an impossible mix. A good conscience holds the faith of God. When your conscience allows you to make a move you have the moral confidence to bear what comes your way. You have the stamina to go through because you know that your conscience excuses you of all this.

Paul testifying says ***“the conscience either accusing them or excusing them”*** (Ref Roms 2:15). Your conscience is the compass that guides you in the way to go. ***“Our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience...”*** (Ref 2 Cor. 1:12). When you obey the voice of your conscience victory is guaranteed. That is why it is good for a child of God to be slow to speak and swift to hear (Ref Jms 1:19).

In the same way too, be slow to take some moves. Let your conscience or heart examine it thoroughly, and get the approval deep within so that when all men say you are stupid, you will say, ***“no, I know what I'm doing”*** because you have weighed in your heart, and your conscience approves of the action.

3. The Devine instruction: When God speaks to you He gives you a direct instruction.

He says, ***“and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice. And a stranger will they not follow”*** (Ref Jn 10:4-5a). He says, ***“I AM the door of the sheepfold”*** (Jn 10:7). He says, ***“And when He putteth forth His own sheep, He goeth before them, and the sheep follow Him: for they know His voice”.***

Beloved, whatever is to be achieved has been achieved. He goes before them and says ***“Follow Me”*** (Ref Jn 10:4), when you go before Him you fail.

When He promised Canaan to Israel He didn't say "*I will give you the land*". He said "***the land which I give unto you***" (Ref Deu. 26:15b). In other words, before they began the journey He had finished the job. So it was a deliberate word. Though there were people in that country, as far as God's plan was concern, the job was over and done with.

Now He says I am the door to the sheepfold (Ref Jn 10:2), I am the shepherd and "***.. and the sheep hear His voice:***" (Jn 10:3b).

We should know His voice. Every true child knows his father and mother's voice. How do you know my voice, and how do I know your voice? Through fellowship. By talking to each other daily.

How I hear God's voice may not be how you hear God's voice. You hear as you interpret. But what matters and how you know what you hear is through fellowship. If you stay a little more with scriptures you will know God's voice. Somehow He talks to you then you begin to know His voice. He says I go before them and the sheep follow because they know my voice (Jn 10:4). He always talks to you, He always leads you, but often we don't hear as we should hear. We should learn to hear because our destiny is connected to that voice.

Kenneth Copeland, a preacher of the gospel. is a billionaire who has given out twenty three airplanes. One day he was asked to sow a seed from his low income, and he sowed that seed. It was a painful one and nothing seemed to come out of it. After months had passed, God asked him to go and buy one seemingly barren land somewhere in Texas. It was like going to buy Sahara Desert. He talked and argued but no word came again. At least he heard the first time.

Anyway, he went and bought the barren land as he was instructed; thank God he had come to know God's voice. Not too long somebody came to ask for permission to break some stones to use for his building, and what did he find? Oil! Now by the US law, if you find gold, oil etc in your land, you automatically become the owner of what is been found. So the whole waste land was sitting on oil. Today Kenneth Copeland is drilling and selling oil in his own land because he obeyed, and has come to know God's voice.

What would have made him go and buy a waste land? That was a waste that did not make sense to the human mind. A waste of investment that did not pass any investment policy or investment write up, but God said go and buy the whole waste land. He has the documents of the land, so now the government pays tax to him for that land. Thank God he obeyed. "***My sheep hear my voice***".

It may be that, that land was truly dry from the depth of the soil to the top, but because he obeyed, the obedience created it just the same way Abraham's obedience brought a sheep in the place of Isaac. Your obedience creates the impossible. If you obey you will do well; just obey (Ref Isaiah 1:19). Now to us in this part of the world we will say that was a breakthrough for Kenneth Copeland. But no, he got the key, he obeyed. He heard and obeyed divine instruction. Praise God.

Job 36:5-12

5 “Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any: He is mighty in strength and wisdom.

He preserveth not the life of the wicked: but giveth right to the poor (to the humble precisely).

7 He withdraweth not His eyes from the righteous: but with kings are they on the throne; yea, He doth establish them for ever, and they are exalted.

8 And if they be bound in fetters, and be holden in cords of affliction;

9 Then He sheweth them their work, and their transgressions that they have exceeded.

10 He openeth also their ear to discipline (or instruction), and commandeth that they return from iniquity.

11 If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.

12 But if they obey not, they shall perish by the sword, and they shall die without knowledge”.

He preserves the righteous. He says in Vs 7 of Job 36, **“He withdraweth not His eyes from the righteous: but with kings are they on the throne; yea, He doth establish them for ever, and they are exalted”.**

But if they become bound with things that should not bind them: when they become oppressed, when they become enslaved, chained in chords, then He says, He opens their ear to something (instruction). Now what is causing the reversal? Why the sudden change? What is making the righteous become bound?

Verse 9 of Job 36 says, **“Then He sheweth them their work, and their transgressions that they have exceeded”.**

To transgress means to exceed a boundary, to do what you should not do, and that involves action. In life you must acknowledge boundaries. There are boundaries in everything and in every place. When you know those boundaries you do well. When you exceed the boundary you transgress and then chords of affliction breaks out. However, He shows them **“.. that they have exceeded”**. He said **“He opens their ear to instruction”**. if you obey the instruction to return, you do well. If they obey and serve Him by doing as commanded He said, **“they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures.**

Listen beloved, God wants you to enjoy life. The devil is your real enemy. What did Christ say? **“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”** (Jn 10:10b). That word means to enjoy life and enjoy it to the limit; if there is any limit. Have the mindset that God wants you to enjoy life. If you’re not enjoying life as you should at your level, what boundary are you exceeding? God in His love will show you the boundary you have exceeded. If they return then He says **“they will spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures”** (Job 36:11).

The Bible says that **“God be magnified who takes pleasure in the prosperity (the doing well) of His people”** (Ps 35:27). Hallelujah! Obedience is the key. If you are willing and obedient you shall eat the good of the land.

Our first fruit offering is part of the obedience (lev. 23:17 &20). If I know that God is my help, I know that He is the one I look to for the guarantee of my next eleven months. If I look to Him as the one that will secure my destiny, I will do as instructed.

He says bring the first of your first fruit, of your first harvest as a token to show to all that you acknowledge me as your help. When you do that then He says the blessing will be caused to rest on your house (Eze 44:30). If you obey you will do well, the rest will be guaranteed for you. Praise God. Even if by some means robbers steal from you, God will replenish that which was stolen more than a hundred folds that His word will not fail. All we need do is to obey and let God do the rest.

God told Gideon when he gathered his army to go and fight, ***“The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.***

3. Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

4. And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

5. So he brought down the people unto the water: and the Lord said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

6. And the number of them that lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men:” (Judges 7:2-6).

How can three hundred men go and fight a war with a whole nation? That is just to show that it is not by your might. And when they got there they fought no battle; God had finished the battle. To blow a trumpet and march round the wall seven times looks silly, but just obey (Ref Jos 6:3-6). Jesus made clay out of spit and sand and rubbed it on the eye of a certain man and said go and wash in that pool (Jn 9:6). Just obey.

A man came like a big man to Elijah, *“ I heard you’re a healer so perform your healing, leprosy must leave my body. Very well, go to River Jordan and dip yourself in it seven times Are there no rivers in my place that I should go and dip in your own river?”* Thank God somebody asked him that “if he had told you to bring 10 rams and twenty cattle won’t you have done it? Just go and dip in the water, just obey. As the man obeyed the leprosy left him (2 Kings 5: 9-14).

When God says “do”, it is not because God cannot do without you doing what He says you should do; He just demands your obedience. For example He says pay your tithe every month. It is not that if you don’t pay He cannot go on. He can, it is just for you to obey. The man who obeys God’s instruction is

the man who submits to God. Your obedience is the evidence of your submission. Just obey. If He says go and sow your car. Just obey.

I was given a fine car sometime ago. One day I told my wife let's sow this car, we sowed it. The following year I was given a car. When God says do a thing; maybe sow that shoe, that wristwatch etc, just obey. Now He says bring the first of your first fruit. Just obey and obey cheerfully. David victories were all fruits of obedience; he obeyed as instructed.

Don't forget these three levels of obedience:

1. Obey His instruction (His word or commandment)
2. Obey your conscience and
3. Hear His voice.

And you will do well.