**The Call to Christian Obedience – Rom. 12:1 -2**

*Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship*

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good, and acceptable and perfect*

**Focal Truth: The act of holy worship produces an acceptance to do the will of God**

**Observations**

1. **Presenting our bodies to God in holiness is the act of acceptable spiritual service of worship**

*Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God*

1. Present = to place a person or thing at one’s disposal
2. Gen. 22:1 – now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, Abraham! And he said, Here I am
3. Ex. 3:4 – when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, Moses, Moses! And he said, Here I am
4. Ex. 34:2 – so be ready by morning and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to Me on the top of the mountain
5. Lev. 16:4 – He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments shall be next to his body, and he shall be girded with the linen sash and attired with the linen turban, these are holy garments. Then he shall bathe his body in water and put them on…Then Aaron shall offer the bull for the sin offering which is for himself, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household
6. Josh. 24:1 – then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel and for their heads and their judges and their officers, and they presented themselves before God.
7. **Transforming our minds is the second act of acceptable spiritual service of worship**

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind*

1. Transformed = metamorpheo – to change into another form
2. 2 Cor. 3:16 – whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away
3. 2 Cor. 3:18 – but we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit
4. Matt. 22:37 – you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind
5. Rom. 8:6 – for the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace
6. Eph. 4:23 – that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind
7. Col. 3:2 – set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth
8. **Transformed minds produces a transformed willingness to do God’s will**

*so that you may prove what the will of God is…*

1. Prove = to discern, approve, scrutinise the will of God
2. Ps. 40:8 – I delight to do your will, O my God, your law is within my heart
3. Ps. 143:10 – teach me to do your will, for you are My God, let your good Spirit lead me on level ground
4. 1 Chr. 28:9 – as for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind, for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him, but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever
5. **Willing obedience accepts God’s will as the only good**
6. Ps. 119:39 – turn away my reproach which I dread, for Your ordinances are good
7. Ps. 122:9 – for the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good
8. Ps. 119:75 – I know, O Lord, that your judgments are righteous
9. Ps. 19:9 – the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever, the judgments of the Lord are true, they are righteous altogether
10. **Willing obedience accepts God’s will as the only thing that pleases God**
11. Rom.12:1 – present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God
12. 1 Tim. 2: 1 -3 – I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.
13. 1 Tim. 5:4 – if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents, for this is acceptable in the sight of God
14. Heb. 12:28 – therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe…
15. 1 Pet. 2:5 – you also as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ
16. **Willing obedience accepts God’s will as perfect for everything in life**
17. James 1:4 – and let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing
18. Col. 4:12 – that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God
19. Heb. 13:20 -21 – now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen
20. 1 Pet. 5:10 – after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you

**Things to Remember**

1. Obedience in worship produces wholehearted obedience to God
2. Drawing near to God in worship melts stubborn disobedience
3. A willing mind is a submissive mind to God’s will
4. God’s will not my will is foundation of obedience to God
5. God’s will is always good
6. God is pleased when His people do His will
7. Obeying God’s will is accepting God’s best

**Daily Use**

1. Daily present yourself to God in holy worship
2. Daily God to God’s word to renew your mind by the work of the Holy Spirit
3. Willingly submit to God’s will in all your ways and deeds
4. Give thanks in everything for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus – 1 Thess. 5:18