

## An Exhorting To Obedience

Text: Proverbs 3:1-18

### Introduction:

1. In the third chapter of Proverbs, we find a strong appeal by God to obey Him.
  - A. This is known as **good wisdom**.
  - B. This makes one **wise**.
  - C. This gives one **life**.
  - D. This makes one **right in the eyes of God**.
  - E. This makes one **good** for his or her own sake.
2. Tonight we are going to look at some of these ways that God is exhorting us to obey Him.
3. We must remember, that God has **ALWAYS** required obedience to Him, even back to the beginning in the garden – “*but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die*” – **Genesis 2:17** – and we do know that by making the **WRONG CHOICE** Adam and Eve disobeyed and were banned from the garden.
4. We will look at the following in God’s exhorting to obedience:
  - A. **Do not forget the commandments**
  - B. **Trust in the Lord**
  - C. **Accept discipline from the Lord**

### I. Do Not Forget (v1-4)

#### A. **Commandments (v1)**

1. Length of life added to you
  - a. **By remitting** the sins (**DO NOT FORGET**) (repenting – turning from them) that cause threats to life (although the damage may be already done to one’s body – but, the soul will be cleansed)
    - 1) Drugs
    - 2) Alcohol
    - 3) Smoking
    - 4) Deviant lifestyles, etc.
2. **Peace will be added** to you (**DO NOT FORGET**) – “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*” – **Galatians 5:22-23**
  - a. With God
  - b. With yourself
  - c. With your friends and neighbors
  - d. Even with your enemies.

#### B. **Kindness (v3)**

#### C. **Truth (v3)**

3. Obedience to the truth will indeed set you free (**DO NOT FORGET**) - “*and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.*” – **John 8:32**
  - a. From the burden of sin.
  - b. From the wrath to come.
4. Shall always be the truth no matter if anyone believe it or not.

### II. Trust In The Lord (v5)

- A. **With all your heart** (**TRUST IN HIM**)
- B. **Not on yourself**

1. Not your ways or thoughts, but let God lead you in the right path
  - a. In everything that you do
  - b. In every decision that you make
  - c. In ALL that you do.
- C. **Acknowledge Him** in ALL that you do (v6)
  1. By giving thanks to the One who guides, directs and looks after us daily.
  2. *“in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”* – **1 Thessalonians 5:18**
  3. *“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”* – **Colossians 3:17**
- D. **Fear God** and turn from evil
- E. Shown by **honoring God with our wealth** (v9)
  1. The first of your fruits that God has given you.
  2. And, your barns will overflow (v10)

### III. Accept Discipline From God (v11)

- A. As shown **by God’s love**
- B. In finding the **wisdom and understanding of God** (v13)
  1. More precious than jewels – nothing that compares (15)
  2. Ways are pleasant and with peace (v17)
    - a. Giving us a joy and a peace that the world cannot give, nor a way that is straight.
    - b. Not like the world’s definition of peace and love.
- C. For **He wants us to taste of the tree of life** (v18)
  1. But, we must take hold (hang on with all your strength), to the promise.
  2. For in it we will be happy.
  3. For, in it we will have eternal life.

### Conclusion:

1. Today, God is exhorting us to continue on the path that leads to eternal life.
2. Today, God is exhorting us to continue on with obedience to His commands. Not by hearing only but, by doing His word.
3. Today, God is exhorting us to continue on in putting our trust in Him, and not to trust our own paths or ways or the ways of the world, in which we have come out of.
4. Today, God is exhorting us to continue to accept His discipline, because of His love for you and me. He does not want any to perish but for all to come to repentance.
5. Because of His great love, he exhorts each and every one to come to Him because only He can give oneself rest, peace, joy and the rich spiritual blessings that are found only **IN** Jesus Christ. *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,”* – **Ephesians 1:3**
6. Yes, God wants us and that is why He exhorts us daily to remain within His fold as a Shepherd protecting His flock – with Christians being the flock and Jesus Christ as the Shepherd.