

*“By Faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, **Obeded**; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.” Hebrews 11:8 KJV*

The dinner bell doesn't satisfy appetite, but summons us without hesitation, because we have obeyed before with great satisfaction. It requires no faith to go, but Abraham, “not knowing,” went where he was called. He chose to believe God above all human reason to the contrary! “For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the Scripture? ‘Abraham BELIEVED God, and it (believing) was counted unto him for Righteousness.’” Belief determines deed. It wasn't obedience that saved Abraham; it was believing the Word of God. Obedience is the proof of faith; not the procurement of it. The more we obey “with a true heart in full assurance of faith,” the more we experience the goodness of God, and the less we hesitate to obey. “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.” Only the hungry are enticed by food's aroma.

The stronger the appetite the faster the response! Only the faithful are drawn to God by the loveliness of His Grace. Obedience has no appeal to our flesh for “the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are Spiritually discerned.” Only if we have “TASTED and SEEN that the Lord is Good,” will God's Word whet our appetite for His Goodness. It is only the salivating palate which is drawn to the repast. When reading and meditating in God's Word and I am reminded of rewards received as a result of obedience, and I am spurred by pleasant memory to seek it yet again! If you have never tasted ice cream, you are not drawn to its icy sweet goodness. If you have never tasted of God's goodness, you will not obey. Complaining of God's lack of supply while disobeying His Word is like complaining of hunger while at the banquet table. “Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” While most are conditional, God never breaks His Promises! “Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask...that ye may consume it upon your lusts.” Do you ask out of real need or carnal lust? Is your motive for asking for God's help your love and trust of Him or is it purely self-gratification? You know the answer before you ask! God cannot call you to obedience if you do not read and study His Word. If God's Word is not in your thoughts, you cannot hear His Voice! “By faith Abraham...obeyed and...went.” He heard God's Voice, because he knew God's Voice. There will never be any tangible proof of God's answers until He does answer. Obedience to God is not predicated upon the temporal. “Faith is...the evidence of things NOT seen!” Jesus said, “If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye DO them.” Ice cream is only delicious if eaten!



True faith will move the heart of man,  
To follow after God's good plan,  
Though held by men in scorned derision,  
Faith ever knows our Lord's provision! –CGP

You will not obey or do what you do not trust or want. You like and eat ice cream only because you tried it. God says, “Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” Have you proved God's Promises with obedience? Obedience is the eager choice of the true believer!

*“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the Knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity EVERY THOUGHT to the obedience of Christ: And having in a readiness to revenge (make right) all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.” 2 Corinthians 10:5-6 KJV*