Title: Obedience and the fear of the Lord

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Introductory remarks

Pro 1:7

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Pro 22:4

Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honour and life.

The fear of the Lord binds you to His will.

Fear vs. grace

Obedience

1 John 2:3-6

"We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. 4 The man who says, 'I know him,' but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."

Phil 2:5-8

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-even death on a cross!

Disobedience

The Lord often speaks difficult words that we either disobey by PRINCIPLE or because of the FEAR of man.

Matt 10:28

"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

We often use Gods grace as a cover for not being obedient - "I will still go to heaven, but I will not do this or that..."

So, you sin deliberately and rely on grace to save you.

The end of grace

Heb 10:26-31

If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Conclusion

Sinning deliberately without true repentance, according the Word, leaves you without salvation.

1 John 2:3-6

"We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. ... This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."

The important thing is that we should desperately want to be like Jesus and must have repentant hearts, like David, when we miss the mark.

Then we are working out our salvation with fear and trembling (*Phil 2:12*) and enduring to the end in order to be saved (*Matt 24:13*).