**‘Obedience is HUGE!’**

***22Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.*** Genesis 6:22

God had given Noah a huge task. He was to build an ark to God’s specifications, make rooms in it, and stock it with enough food to feed his family and all of the animals that would ride out the flood with him. How does anyone prepare for such a massive thing? All we are told is that Noah did what the Lord God commanded him to do.

Do we understand how important our obedience is to God? The answer is that it’s very important! With Noah, we have an example of how one person’s obedience to God led to the saving of not only himself and his family, but all air-breathing creatures as well. We’re here because Noah obeyed. Our obedience may not have the global ramifications that Noah’s had, but it does count!

I pondered this post and I did a biblical search on the words: obedience, obey, keep, and do. The results were not surprising. There are great blessings associated with obedience, and there are terrible curses associated with disobedience. God is not a tyrant. He loves us regardless of whether we obey Him or not. However, when we walk with Him in obedience there is a level of protection that isn’t with us when we walk in ways contrary to God’s ways.

We live in a fallen world, so tragic things can happen even when we walk with the Lord. But when we walk contrary to His commands, and continue doing so consistently, the protection we had enjoyed will begin to be lifted from us. Should this happen, it is only a matter of time before trouble will come our way. When trouble strikes, that’s a good time for us to take a spiritual inventory of our lives by measuring our lives up against the Ten Commandments. Maybe we’ve begun to walk in ways contrary to the Lord. If so, it is time for us to confess our waywardness, repent of those things, and return to Him in faithful obedience. “He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love” (Psalm 103:8). However, if we take a spiritual inventory and we aren’t living contrary to God’s commands, the trying times are likely times of testing which are meant to strengthen us.

Upon writing these words, I can’t help but take a spiritual inventory of the United States of America. Many believe that America was intended to be a nation which honored God by keeping His commands and by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world. Have we done this? Yes and no. America has been a great missionary nation and has helped many nations and people in times of crisis. Unfortunately, we’ve also murdered over 60 million unborn children, engaged in the trafficking of children for sex around the globe, filled the nations with pornography and other illicit materials, and turned away from the Lord by removing Him from public discourse.

America is presently much like Israel at the height of her disobedience to the Lord and she was judged harshly for it. Could it be that the events of September 11, 2001 were a “shot across America’s bow” and the Lord was sending a serious warning to us? A wonderful look at the similarities between America and Israel can be found in Jonathan Cahn’s books *‘The Harbinger’* and his follow-up book *‘The Mystery of the Shemitah.’*[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2018/02/" \l "_ftn1) We have got to understand that we reap what we sow. Continued disobedience against the Lord will bring disasters. But obedience can avert trouble.\*\*\*

A final word on obedience: Jesus told his disciples, ***‘If you love me you will keep my commandments’*** John 14:15. Do we love Jesus? If we do, then obedience is how we show him our love.

*Kathleen*

[[1]](http://yourbibleblog.com/2018/02/" \l "_ftnref1) Cahn, Jonathan. *The Harbinger*. ISBN-13: 978-1616386107. *The Mystery of the Shemitah.* ISBN-13: 978-1629994703