

Small Choices To Whispering Voices
“Christian-ish” – Part 2
August 10, 2025

**Selective obedience is the illusion that
doing some of what God commands is enough.**

Deuteronomy 5:33 (NIV) *“Walk in obedience to all that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.”*

Exodus 19:5a (NIV) *“Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession.”*

Job 36:11 (NLT) *“If they listen and obey God, they will be blessed with prosperity throughout their lives. All their years will be pleasant.”*

Two things these verses have in common:

- **God is asking for our full obedience.**
- **Some of God’s blessings are conditional.**

**‘Works righteousness’ is working our way to being right with God.
We’re saved by grace and blessed by God for our obedience.
All of God’s redemptive plan is structured around covenants.**

THE NEW COVENANT

**Unconditional Promise: Jesus offers forgiveness of sins
and eternal life for all who believe.**

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.”*

Romans 10:13 (NIV) *“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”*

Conditional Blessings: flow from obedience to God.

God doesn't want our partial obedience.

God wants our full surrender.

One step at a time.

1 Samuel 15:7-9 (NIV) *“Then Saul attacked the Amalekites all the way from Havilah to Shur, near the eastern border of Egypt. ⁸ He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword. ⁹ But Saul and the army spared Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs—everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.”*

Disobedience always starts with a whisper.

Disobedience is rarely a onetime event.

What you allow in the moment, often owns you in the future.

Are you listening to the whisper of Satan or the Holy Spirit?

James 5:16 (NIV) *“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”*

**We confess to God for forgiveness.
We confess to people for healing.**

1 Samuel 15:20-21 (NIV) *“‘But I did obey the Lord,’ Saul said. ‘I went on the mission the Lord assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king.’²¹ The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the Lord your God at Gilgal.”*

Every sin we justify builds a wall between us and God.

Matthew 5:21-22 (NIV) *“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’²² But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.”*

Matthew 5:27-29 (NIV) *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.²⁹ If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.”*

Matthew 5:33-34,37 (NIV) *“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’³⁴ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all:³⁷ All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”*

Matthew 5:43-44 (NIV) *“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”*

1 Samuel 15:22 (NIV) *“Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.”*

1 John 5:3-4 (NIV) *“In fact, this is love for God: to keep His commands. And His commands are not burdensome,⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.”*

Romans 12:2 (NIV) *“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.”*