

# 1 & 2 Samuel Series

## Lesson #056

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Dean Bible Ministries

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THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

**DISOBEDIENCE EQUALS WITCHCRAFT**

**1 SAMUEL 15:23**



# 1. Obedience to God

**James 4:7, “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”**

**Gen. 22:18, “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”**

**Gen. 26:5, “because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”**

**Ex. 19:5, “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.”**



# 1. Obedience to God

**Deut. 12:28, “Observe and obey all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you and your children after you forever, when you do what is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.”**

**Deut. 13:4, “You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.”**



## 2. Obedience to parents

**Deut. 21:18, “If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and who, when they have chastened him, will not heed them,**

**Deut. 21:19, “then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city, to the gate of his city.**

**Deut. 21:20, “And they shall say to the elders of his city, ‘This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.’**

**Deut. 21:21, “Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death with stones; so you shall put away the evil from among you, and all Israel shall hear and fear.”**



## 2. Obedience to parents

**Eph. 6:1, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”**

**Col. 3:20, “Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.”**

**1 Tim. 3:4, “one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence.”**



### **3. Slaves were to obey their masters.**

**Col. 3:22, “Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.”**

**1 Pet. 2:18, “Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh.”**

**Titus 2:9, “Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back,”**



#### **4. Obedience of the wife to the husband.**

**Eph. 5:21, “submitting to one another in the fear of God.**

**Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”**

**Eph. 5:24, “Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.”**

**Col. 3:18, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”**



## **4. Obedience of the wife to the husband.**

**1 Pet. 3:1, “Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,”**

**1 Pet. 3:5, “For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands,”**



**5. We are all to submit to the authorities over us.**

**Titus 3:1, “Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,”**

**Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.”**



**5. We are all to submit to the authorities over us.**

**1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,**

**1 Pet. 2:14, “or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.”**



**6. Those who represent evil do not obey God.**

**Ex. 5:2, “And Pharaoh said, ‘Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.’ ”**



**7. At its core sin is rebellion against God and rejection of God's authority.**

**Rom. 8:7, “Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.”**

**Rom. 10:3, “For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”**



**8. Because of rebellion, Israel could not enter the promised land.**

**Deut. 9:23, “Likewise, when the LORD sent you from Kadesh Barnea, saying, ‘Go up and possess the land which I have given you,’ then you rebelled against the commandment of the LORD your God, and you did not believe Him nor obey His voice.”**



**9. The final state of God's creation is brought to a state of peace and harmony because all are brought into submission to God.**

**1 Cor. 15:27, “For ‘He has put all things under His feet.’ But when He says ‘all things are put under Him,’ it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.**

**1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”**



**9. The final state of God's creation is brought to a state of peace and harmony because all are brought into submission to God.**

**Heb. 2:8, “ ‘You have put all things in subjection under his feet.’ For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.”**

**1 Pet. 3:22, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”**



**9. The final state of God's creation is brought to a state of peace and harmony because all are brought into submission to God.**

**Phil. 2:10, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,**

**Phil. 2:11, “and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”**



**10. As Peter concludes his first epistle he re-emphasizes the importance of submission.**

**1 Pet. 5:5, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’ ”**



# **Review of Divine Institutions**

- 1. Personal Responsibility: God is the authority**
- 2. Marriage: The husband is the authority**
- 3. Family: The parents are the authority**
- 4. Government: The governing authorities**
- 5. Nationalism: God is the authority; He sets the boundaries. Acts 17:26**



**11. And humility is the chief virtue because it is submission to the proper authorities.**

**Num. 12:3, “(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)”**

**Phil. 2:8, “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”**



**1 Sam. 15:23, “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”**



**1 Sam. 15:23, “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.  
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”**

**מַרְיָ *merî rebellion***



**Num. 17:10, “And the LORD said to Moses,  
‘Bring Aaron’s rod back before the  
Testimony, to be kept as a sign against the  
rebels, that you may put their complaints  
away from Me, lest they die.’ ”**

**מַרְיָ *merî rebellion***



**Deut. 31:27, “for I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. If today, while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the LORD, then how much more after my death?”**

**מֶרִי *merî rebellion***



**Deut. 21:18, “If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and who, when they have chastened him, will not heed them,”**

סָרָר *sarar*

**qal part masc sing abs  
to be rebellious,  
stubborn**

מָרָה *marah*

**qal part masc  
sing abs  
to rebel**

**Deut. 21:18, 20; Jer. 5:23; Ps. 78:8**



**1 Sam. 15:23, “For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.  
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king.”**

**מֶרִי *merî rebellion***

**קֶסֶם *qesem* Divination, witchcraft, sorcery, fortune telling, omen, lot, oracle, decision. The use of demonism for solving life’s problems.**



**Deut. 18:10, “There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,”**

**2 Kings 17:17, “Then they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and practiced divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him.”**



**Jer. 14:14, “Then the LORD said to me, ‘The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor commanded them nor spoken to them; they are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility and the deception of their own minds.’ ”**

**Ezek. 13:6, “They see falsehood and lying divination who are saying, ‘The LORD declares,’ when the LORD has not sent them; yet they hope for the fulfillment of their word.”**

**Ezek. 13:23, “therefore, you women will no longer see false visions or practice divination, and I will deliver My people out of your hand. Thus you will know that I am the LORD.”**



**1 Sam. 15:23**

**For rebellion = witchcraft**

**Stubbornness = iniquity and idolatry**



**Divination is the attempt to use various secret or occult powers to determine the future.**

**Often this is done through various means of interpreting signs, omens, or objects usually with the aid of supernatural beings.**

**Forms of divination include: clairvoyance, palm reading, astrology, reading the liver of a dead animal (hepatoscopy), reading the signs of cast arrows (belomancy), necromancy (consulting the dead), and recently I've heard of reading someone's tattoos.**



**Divination was specifically prohibited by the Law.**

**Lev. 19:26, “You shall not eat anything with the blood, nor shall you practice divination or soothsaying.”**

**Lev. 19:31, “Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.”**

**Lev. 20:27, “ ‘A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood shall be upon them.’ ”**



**Divination was often used in the ancient world.**

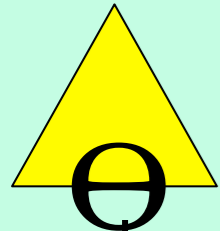
**Ezek. 21:21, “For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads, to use divination: he shakes the arrows, he consults the images, he looks at the liver.”**



**So Why is Rebellion Compared to  
Divination?**



# Course of the Angelic Conflict



Angels  
Created

Man  
Created  
Man  
Falls

Gen 1:1

Calvary  
Isa 53:1-12



C.A.

TRIB

Rapture



The  
Kingdom  
Dan 7:13-14  
Isa 2:1-3  
Mic 4:1-2  
Hag 2: 5-9



**S**  
**A**  
**T**  
**A**  
**N**

Ezk 28:12-19  
Satan Job 16; Lk 10:16  
Devil Mt 4:1-11  
Principalities  
& Powers Eph 6:12  
Accuser-Slanderer  
Beelzebub-Serpent  
Tempter-Wicked One  
Prince of This World  
Isa 14:12-17



Mt 25:41; Rev 19:20;



**Isa. 14:3, “It shall come to pass in the day the LORD gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve,**

**Isa. 14:4, “that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say: ‘How the oppressor has ceased, the golden city ceased!**

**Isa. 14:5, “ ‘The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers;’ ”**



**Isa. 14:10, “They all shall speak and say to you: ‘Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?’ ”**

**Isa. 14:11, “ ‘Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the sound of your stringed instruments; the maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you.’ ”**



**Isa. 14:12, “How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning [*helel ben shahar*]! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!**

**Isa. 14:13, “For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;**

**Isa. 14:14, “ ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ ”**