

## Pt 3 - **OBEY**

The Christian life starts with simply following Jesus.  
In time, those who follow Jesus begin to believe IN Jesus.

Following Jesus IS a prerequisite to believing in WHO Jesus claims to be.  
The Chosen One sent by God – the Saviour of the world!

We've established that the pattern of a disciple is to follow Jesus, to believe in Jesus and to obey Jesus and His ways.

The Christian's goal in life is to be so convinced of WHO Jesus is and so grateful for WHAT Jesus has done that we willingly choose to DO what Jesus says!

Following Jesus will eventually lead to a major departure from some cultural ways that society deems as normal.

Jesus understood this dilemma and addressed it at the end of His most famous open air teaching session known as the "*Sermon on the Mount.*"

### **Matthew 7:24-29**

This Parable is Jesus' take on DOING versus NOT DOING.

This parable comes as either a *comfort* or a *warning*, but for all of us, it comes as a *promise*.

**a) For those who seek to and who are building their lives upon the teachings of Jesus, can take comfort from this parable.**

Knowing there will be a few bumps and bruises along the way but if we keep true to the ways of Jesus we will withstand the storms of life.

**b) For those who feel this parable is not relevant to them – do not dismiss it too quickly rather heed its warning.**

Obedience is inconvenient and costly – it means discipline and discipline is delayed gratification. There is no gain without pain!

The warning is this: ***join the dots and see where disobedience leads too - time will tell!***

c) **Then there are those who are now right in the middle of a storm.  
It's like you're standing on the riverbank watching your life wash by.**

You just need to look in the rear-view mirror of your life to see where following your own gratification has led you?

- Erosion? Disappointment? Despair?

Who is to blame for this?

- God? Others?

Perhaps it is the outcome of a life built on a shaky foundation that was destined to erode away.

This is a parable about faith! *"Who are we going to trust?"*

In our ability to determine our future or Jesus' ability?

**Proverbs 3:5** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.*

Will we take Jesus at His Word and live in obedience to Him - trusting that He knows what is best for us?

Or will we lean on our own understanding and continue to do things our way?

## **Conclusion**

Here is the trap, attending and hearing is not life changing. Our Christian culture puts so much emphasis on *"I go to church."* This isn't what Jesus is saying!

Here is the alternative, ***Obey now and endure later.***

Disobey now, and face certain collapse later.

In whom are we going to dig the foundation of our life upon?

- Ourselves? Jesus?

The goal of the Christian's life is to be so convinced of Who Jesus is and so grateful for what Jesus has done that we willingly choose to do what Jesus says.

**It's simple!**

**Follow - Believe - Obey**