

“Why Should God’s Children Obey?”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com). It was posted for the weekend of April 19, 2025. (It was previously posted on April 15, 2023.)

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BIG SANDY, Texas—On the seventh day of Unleavened Bread (April 12, 2023), I had the opportunity to give a Bible study, and I gave a presentation with the identical title of this article.

In that Bible study, I discussed three reasons why God’s children obey our Heavenly Father. Here are some of the scriptures that I read.

To be blessed now

Obeying our Heavenly Father is a wise goal for God’s children to prioritize.

This may seem like an obvious statement to make: Obeying God is smart.

■ Deuteronomy 30:15-16—“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.”

■ Deuteronomy 30:19—“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.”

To be blessed at the resurrection

■ Luke 14:12-14—The Son of God said: “When you give a dinner or a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

To willingly honor our Father now

■ Exodus 20:2—After God delivered the children of Israel from bondage, He gave them the Ten Commandments as the foundation of His expectations for their behavior—establishing these principles as goals that an appreciative people should willingly seek to do.

- Matthew 5:14-16—In the Sermon on the Mount, the Son of God taught His disciples to do good behavior, so that observers could glorify the Father in heaven.
- Romans 6:1-2—Since God has given grace to His children, they should certainly seek to avoid repeating sins in their lives.
- 2 Corinthians 9:7—Children of God should be cheerful givers.
- 1 Peter 5:2-4—Children of God should behave willingly and eagerly—being an example to others instead of being an overlord.

Solid foundation of God stands

- 2 Timothy 2:19—“The solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His’ and ‘Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.’ ”
- 2 Timothy 2:21—“Therefore if anyone cleanses himself, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.”