Obedience to God

Luke 5:1-11

"Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine." (Exodus 19:5)

Obedience is a heart submitted to God's will; a mind that listens to His voice and is action that follows His command. Obedience is also the way to get closer to God. It leads to growth in faith and results great benefits.

Peter was a fisherman. Every day he let his net down to earn a living. One day, after a night of fruitless fishing, Jesus instructed him to go into deep water and let down the net one more time for a catch. What would you do if you were Peter? Having worked all day, tried hard, yet had no success. Would you listen to someone you do not know and who, to your knowledge, is not an expert in your trade. Would you follow a stranger's advice? Peter was in such arduous situation. Yet surprisingly (knowing his personality) he listened to Jesus. He took Jesus' advice and obeyed. He threw the net one more time, and then the real surprise came. He caught so much fish that his net began to break and his boat began to sink. Peter called for help.

People might call this even a fiction, but I say, it is true, it is real and it is in the Bible. It is not just an entertaining story, it is the best demonstration of obedience to God and there is a great lesson to learn from it.

At times God will tell you to do something that may be tedious, or out of your way. What would you do? I say you should not hesitate but obey. After all compared to Peter you are in a better position. Peter did not exactly know who Jesus was. You do and Jesus is the Son of God. And then you have Peter's eyewitness account recorded by Luke. You therefore have no excuse, but to listen and to obey God.

There is a blessing in every act of obedience, dear friends. You might not always see the result right away, but it is there as God has predestined it for you. Peter trusted Jesus, he followed Jesus' advice and he obeyed. The blessing he received was not only the large amount of fish that he caught that day. The greater blessing came when a multitude of people came to know Jesus through his preaching and personal testimony. Peter was a fisherman, thanks to his obedience he became a fisher of men.

The benefits of obeying God is far more than what you experience right away. When God tells you to do something, just obey and let your net down. God will drop so much glory your way that you will be overwhelmed with everlasting joy.

Conclusion: It does not matter who you are and how perfect your faith is. Add obedience to it, and your faith will be perfected. Remember faith without obedience can turn to be fiction. And fiction is fiction, not real. But God is real and so is His Son Jesus Christ, who Himself obeyed to His father and thanks to His obedience we are saved.

Amen