



# The Mission Trail

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“LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST.” — JOHN 4:35

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## Obedience

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Good morning, friends. "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king." I Samuel 15:22, 23

It seems that we've reached an age and era, when disobedience is very prevalent. These verses which I have just given you are the words of Samuel to King Saul after he had failed to carry out the commandments of the Lord. When Saul was first made king he was quite shy and unassuming but now look at him, if you will. Headstrong and haughty, taking things into his own hands without consulting the Lord. Saul had miserably failed in the task which God had given him to do. Then of course he made excuses. He said it was because of the people but the pride of his own heart had lifted him up to a place of disobedience.

Isn't this true of the times in which we live. Some children do not want to obey their parents. Many of them refuse to obey their school teachers. Often young folks do not want to listen to their elders, but they go headstrong in their own ways and by the same token this is the example which is set by many of the citizens of our country. They don't want to obey the rules and regulations of society. They regard not the life and property of others, to

the extent which they should, and in general there is just a spirit of disobedience prevailing all too often. I am glad this isn't true altogether. There are still some god-fearing people and some children who respect their parents and some citizens who are above reproach. But there is one thing we must all learn if we would please God and that is obedience. Some folks can just offer a lot of excuses why they don't obey and often it appears that their arguments are reasonable but Saul's arguments didn't stand before Samuel. Samuel went on to say, "Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on. And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?"

Do you remember the trouble that Jonah had? Do you know why he was in trouble? Well, let me tell you. It was because he refused to obey what God told him to do. The word of the Lord had come unto Jonah and told him to go unto Nineveh. You see, Nineveh was a large

city and a very wicked one. The Lord told him to go down there and preach the preaching I bid thee. Now I don't know why Jonah didn't want to go. He might have been afraid of the people. He might have thought it wouldn't do any good. But instead of going to Nineveh he took a ship headed for Tarshish. Well, that is where the trouble began. God dealt with Jonah and he had mercy upon him. But there was no way to successfully avoid doing what God had told him to do and after Jonah was cast out on land once again from the belly of the whale, the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, arise and go unto Nineveh and preach unto them the preaching that I bid thee. Well, that lesson was enough for Jonah and he obeyed the voice of the Lord. Dear ones, what God wants is obedience. If the Lord has given you a job to do, you would do well to be at it.

Take for example Saul of Tarsus. He thought he ought to do many things contrary to the doctrine of Christ and persecuted the early disciples. But one day the Lord stopped him and gave him some orders and after he realized that he was persecuting Jesus of Nazareth he said, "What wilt thou have me to do?" And of course in the meantime he was blind and had to have some one lead him by the hand, but he became obedient from that moment on. Listen to this verse from Deut. 13:4. It says, "Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him."

Now there may be someone who will hear this broadcast who simply thinks, "I don't want to live that way, and no body is going to make me do what I don't want to do." Friends, how true

this is to a great extent. You don't have to be saved, you don't have to live for the Lord. It is like this poem which says,

## WARNING

### YOUR CHOICE

You don't have to go to heaven,  
You don't have to live for God,  
You don't have to be forgiven,  
Nor washed in Jesus' blood.

When beyond the shining portals  
All the ransomed meet at last,  
You don't have to be among them  
When the fight on earth is passed.

Though the Saviour died on Calvary,  
Still His pardon you need not know;  
Though His Spirit now is striving,  
To the Lord you need not go.

Though a mother in her sorrow  
For your soul doth plead and pray.  
You don't have to be forgiven,  
Need not walk the narrow way.

Though you choose the path of sorrow,  
Live the life that suits you best,  
Turn your back on Heavenly treasure  
Vainly seek for peace and rest,

God will never make you serve Him,  
Never force you to be saved;  
You can go to judgment Christless,  
Though your path with prayer is paved.

You can keep right on your sinning,  
Turn your back on what is right,  
Push headlong in perdition,  
And an endless awful night.

There's no power in earth or Heaven  
That can check your downward way  
Unless Jesus Blood is sprinkled  
And your sins are washed away.

I say it is time that folks should listen to the word of God. Jer. 26:13 puts it this way, "Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God; and the Lord will repent him of the evil that he hath pronounced against you." You see, you don't have to obey but the immutable law of God says, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." You can go on and reap the wages of sin if that is what you choose. But dear ones, remember the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Our obedience to him should be constant without reserve and willing. Isa. 1:19 says, "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land".

Friends, the only way to happiness is through obedience. Noah obeyed God and built an ark to the saving of his household. Abraham obeyed God and went out by faith not knowing whether he went, but God blessed him and made of him a great nation, and through him God has blessed the entire world. It is written of Hezekiah, "For he clave to the Lord, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the Lord commanded Moses." And one time when the disciples were suffering persecution from the people "Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men." And I say that we ought to obey God too. But it is left to each individual to make his choice. Remember God is not going to force you to do right, but I believe if you will do it of your own will you'll be happy that you did.

Let us pray, Our Father,  
Bless each listener of the broadcast.

Give us a willing heart to obey. Remove stubbornness and hatred from the life of each one who has a yearning heart to do thy will and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Here is a song, "What Jesus is to me". The singers are Lynn and Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and Edgar Martens.

Dear ones, it has been a pleasure to bring you this short gospel message as it is each week that we are on the air over this station. We are trusting the Lord by faith to keep his word going forth. We do appreciate the interest which has been shown by those who help us keep the message going forth each week. We are trusting the Lord by faith and we also trust that he will bless each and every one of you and reward you many many times over again for all you do for his cause and for his glory. May he be with each of you until we meet again and now if you'd like to write us let me give you the address just before we go. Send your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. This is Willie Murphey speaking. Until we meet again may the Lord keep watch between you and me and let his richest blessings come your way. A very cheerful good-bye!

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### *Testimonies*

From Tenn.: "it will soon be camp-meeting time again; hope we can attend Myrtle, Mo. It's closer for us. . . remember us in prayer." --Sue Shell

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From Calif.: "Holy greetings to all the saints and publisher of the Mission Trail which I enjoy very much. To me it is real food to my soul, would love to hear the radio program. I need your prayers." --Katie Gaines

From Mo.: "We have felt impressed for the last few days to tell you how I enjoy the Mission Trail. It surely is a great blessing. It just comes in time when we would need some comfort or courage to our souls. Keep the good message of truth going on the radio. Your labor is not in vain in the Lord. I think of the scripture where it says Bless the Lord oh my soul and all that is with in me bless his holy name, who forgiveth all thine iniquities who healeth all thy diseases. Praise the Lord. We have every thing we need to make it to Heaven." --Elizabeth Glass

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From Okla.: "We send greetings to you in Jesus dear name. I'm thankful to still be saved. I appreciate God's dealings to my soul and life. In the past several weeks I've thought about the beauty of trees especially since spring is here and just to watch them branch and leaf out. I would think now God formed the trunk, branches, leaves and what beautiful foliage was created by the handiwork of God. Later there will be fruit and time to gather it. Also there's a pruning and trimming time, so in due season fruit will bear there on. So is it with us spiritually. We are his trees of righteousness created in the foliage of God's love. Sometimes we have to be pruned and trimmed, so therefore he allows trials, persecutions, accusations, sickness and heavy burdens to touch our lives. Through these if we say, yes Lord! he prunes and trims us, that he will find fruit. In my experience with the Lord he's allowed trials to come my way, and still is today. Tears may come . . . yet in our heart we said, yes Lord and he's able to trim on us. My heart's desire is to keep yielded to his will. Do remember us in prayer. We have three requests before the Lord."

--Sis. Malinda Penner

From Pa.: "Mother is still able to be up and can walk a little bit. God is so good and I do praise Him each day for all of His mercies and loving kindness to us."

--Eva Cox

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From Ore.: "We are so glad for the Mission Trail, just like a family letter from the saints and each one tells what the Lord has done for them. It is a up lift for us all. . . The Lord is good to us. We had about a week of real nice weather but it has been mostly cloudy today but no rain. We had a nice winter this last winter. No snow to lay on the ground, only a few snow showers that melted almost as fast as it fell and only a few of them. . . Our camp meeting is drawing so near, do hope the Lord will send us some ministers this time." --Sis. Emma Busch

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From Texas: "I so enjoy the Mission Trail and look forward to it each week . . . It is food for our souls and brings gladness to our hearts to read of the saints abroad. The messages are short but weighty and to the point. Those who turn it away will regret it. . . Oliver Wendell Holmes once said, that there are one-story, two-story, and three-story men. Some men, like the beasts of the field, live on the level of the ground. Others live at the level of their minds. And still others live in the heights of the spirit. We are thankful to be in the True Church of God, enjoying the blessings of salvation and all the benefits it brings. The Lord answers our prayers and witnesses to us that we are his and he is ours. He hears and takes care of every need in our life. . . I am praying the Lord will see fit for me to attend part of the Guthrie meeting. . . May the Lord keep his hand on you and the work he has entrusted in your care. Remember us when you pray."

--Edith Wall

From Nebr. : "With St. Paul I can also declare I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, (New Testament) for it is the power of God unto salvation, unto all who will believe. Thanks be unto our . . . Saviour. I found rest in Jesus. Oh! what wonderful rest."

--Sis. Mittie Sultzbaugh

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From Colo. : "Isolated as I am I need the prayers of the saints that I fail not God, but I have no spiritual friends to encourage or pray for me, so I keep a diligent and daily watching unto prayer for myself and saints everywhere, also the revival efforts being made like the one at Anthony, Kan. now in progress, then the campmeetings that's soon to follow, and I would like to attend the one at Guthrie, also Monark Spgs., but not sure that I will be able to attend either one. Since April 11 I've been afflicted in my left hip and is real painful; so please pray for me that God will heal this affliction as he has others. I love the Mission Trail. . . God bless you that are spending your time in His service."

--Fred B. Allen

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### JESUS ON THE CROSS

Jesus died upon the cross  
To save us all from sin.  
Would you die upon the cross  
And give your life for Him?  
Just think; was mocked, was cursed,  
And tried to save us all from sin.  
Just think; would you go through that  
And give your life for Him?  
Or would you just sit back and laugh,  
And say, oh well, who cares;  
I'll serve Him MAYBE, later on,  
But not for many years?  
You should be thankful and serve Him now,  
Who died upon the cross,  
For if you say later on,  
Your soul might be lost.

--Debra Baird, age 12, daughter of  
Helen and Willard Underdown

From California: "I am thanking and praising the dear Lord for victory tonight and on my way to glory to all I know and understand, healed and kept by His grace. I love to read the Mission Trail, thank the Lord for the true Word of God."

--Lucinda Chiles

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From Okla. : "I still love the Lord and I am going to live in all the light that God sheds on my pathway. I know there is a better place waiting for the redeemed of God. . . After all what does this old world offer to compare with the things of God? . . . Some say that they love Him, but their life doesn't prove it."

--Mable Been

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From Okla. : "I fell yesterday. I was working in my flowers and tripped over something and fell right on my face, so I have 2 black eyes and am a little 'shook up', but thank God, I am not hurt badly, could have broken my glasses and put my eyes out, so I have a lot to be thankful for and I sure am thanking the dear Lord."

--Ida Ruckman

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From Putnam Prison Branch, Georgia: "Greetings to you and all saints in love of our dear Heavenly father, who means every thing unto us if we only trust him with all of our needs. I have been wanting to write sooner, but have been hindered in many ways, but I can truly say that his blessing is still rich upon my soul, and I ask of you and other saints for your prayer for me and family, especially for my mother which is ill from sugar in blood. And I do enjoy reading the Mission Trail very much and I pray that your efforts will be blessed plentifully that others will get to hear the broadcast and to receive the Mission Trail. May you and others be blessed richly in his love to continue in work for him. With prayer and love,"

--Cecil Walker

