

Obedience is Not Enough

Introduction

- **Obedience is vitally important.**
 - **Matthew 7:21**
 - **Luke 6:46**
 - **2 John 9**
 - **Example of Cain and Abel**
 - **Example of wandering Israelites**
- **Rote obedience is *not* enough!**

God Desires More Than Obedience

1. Isaiah 1:11, 13-15

- Had God not required sacrifices, feasts, and prayers?
- Why, then, does He now say He is fed up with the very things He required?

2. Matthew 15:1-8

- Did God not appreciate their gifts?

3. Matthew 23:23

- God does not want heartless robots obeying Him.

God Desires Your Heart

- **God has never been interested in lifeless, repetitive obedience; He craves more than that which any disengaged person can offer.**
- **Matthew 9:9-13: “I desire mercy and not sacrifice”**
 - So fixated on the externals that the heart was forgotten.
- **It’s possible to go through the motions and not love God. Acts 5:1-11**
 - A mentality that sees God’s commands as a checklist only, is a heart that is not fully set on Him yet.

Unrestrained Passion is Not the Answer

- **A heart set on God who loves Him with all that it has, is a heart that will submit and obey God.**

Application

- **Do you see your attendance as an item to cross off your checklist?**
 - Just not want the church “on your back”?
 - Or, do you see it as a duty that you are privileged to carry out with God’s redeemed people?
- **Are you involved in good deeds while lamenting or complaining?**
 - 1 Cor. 13:1-3; Matthew 6:3, 4

Conclusion

- **Does God have your heart?**
 - Honestly evaluate the “why” behind your service to God.
 - If changes need to be made, we are here to help.