



If ye be
Willing and Obedient...
Isaiah 1:19-20 (KJV)



Evg. Sandra Singleton

In the Book of Isaiah, Isaiah begins his dialogue describing how God shown him in a vision God's nourishment and provision for Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, Kings of Judah. Judah and Jerusalem rebelled against God's provision and God's response was, "I, the Lord have spoken, the ox knows his owner, and the ass his master's crib; but Israel does not know, and my people does not consider." The dialogue continues with the finalization in verses 18-19 stating; "Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord: If you be willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land: But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it." The streets and cities had become desolate like Sodom and Gomorrah. But the Lord made an exception, and a small remnant was left.

Let us look at the spiritual application of this all. The Lord says if you are willing and obedient you shall eat the good of the land. When considering "willingness," it is the Lord that works both the will and the obedience in our lives to His good pleasure. It is when we "refuse and rebel" we will be devoured by the sword. The sword could be likened unto us as the "Word of God." The same "Word," that could heal us, could also destroy us if we are not willing and disobedient. I will now share a testimony of obeying the voice of God, and the importance of obedience.

I had purposed in my heart that I would improvise and skip Sunday school this week to take a quiz for my class at Campbellsville University, that was due by Sunday at midnight. Prior to Sunday, the Lord inspired me during my daily devotion to peruse all the provisions He had provided for me.

After praying and agreeing with God concerning the provisions, He simply asked the question: "What about My house?" He began to

impress upon me to send funding to the building fund drive at Apostolic Bible College under the direction of District Elder La Monte McNeese, who was my pastor at the time. It was early that morning that I would text my pastor and ask, “Are you up?” (We are on different time zones.) But to my surprise he texted back “Yep.” I then asked him to call me.

I explained what the Lord had laid on my heart, shared some ideas with my pastor. He stated: “You are not going to believe this, but my secretary and I were just conversing over the next steps to take concerning the building fund drive and lease. We both agreed that this must be God! I just want someone to know the importance of acting and responding to God by “FAITH” so much so that even though I have moved my membership to Pastor Nate Northington at Newburg Apostolic Church in Louisville, Kentucky, I am still honoring what the Lord laid on my heart.

Saturday night I had prayed to God to give me strength to take the quiz Sunday before midnight. God did just that. Sunday morning came around and He woke me out of my sleep and told me to take the quiz. Normally my professor gives us 16 questions that should have 150 words to answer. Only to my surprise when I clicked on the quiz it only had 3 questions. I was so happy. After I finished the quiz, God told me to go lay down. He again woke me a few hours later and told me to get up and read the Sunday school lesson. I got up and began to read and the lesson and to my surprise it was about, “The Priority of Obedience.” It is important to obey the voice of God, and to act thereon. I shared with my pastor the lesson topic, and he said, “Look at God!” He told me that I should share God’s goodness with others’ both personally and openly.

My pastor stated that this is a testimony. I explained that I would write this article to inspire others to invest in what will give them a good return. We invest in the stock market, CDs, IRAs, and Annuities and expect a return on our monies. How much more should we invest in God’s House, and invest in what we believe in. To make a long story

short, I was able to attend Sunday school, and I identified with the lesson (Matthew 7:21-27; Matthew 25:14-30).

My intent in life is to hear the Savior say, “Well done my good and faithful servant!” I DO NOT want to hear Him say, “Depart from me, I never knew you!”