

27 June 1993, Morning Sacrifice Manasseh
Comprehensive Gospel

The reason we believe the way we believe and live the way we live is because of the way we understand the good news. It is because of the way we understand the gospel and the way we understand the word. What we think, what we believe, these things we believe, they are revealed in the gospel — revealed to those who are willing to do God's will (Jn 7:17). The gospel reveals the reality of YAHSHUA and the reality of the Father who brings us understanding of His will, His purpose for mankind, and what we are doing here on earth, why we are breathing air. If we are not doing the will of God, we are wasting our time on earth — we are living in vain and we are going to be destroyed with the rest of the world who do not understand why they are living. So we believe that those who are willing to do God's will, will come to understand the reality of YAHSHUA and His purpose.

Our Master YAHSHUA became flesh and blood according to what the scriptures said. We believe also that the essential requirement of the gospel — who we believe in and what He did for us — this is the very first aspect of the gospel and is what we are to believe in in order to be saved. I want make this clear to begin with so that we can understand.

Heb 5:9 speaks about how our Master was absolutely obedient to the Father. He was submissive to His will, He came under His authority, He yielded to His authority, He yielded submission entirely, fully to the will of the Father. This is what salvation means — it means nothing less than absolute surrender of your whole totality to the Son of God, like our Master surrendered His totality to the Father. We cannot be saved if our submission is any less than the Son's submission. We have to understand that it is a total absolute surrender to His will. There are many places in the scriptures that help us to understand this. What does Heb 5:9 say? "*and once made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him.*" — for all who obey Him. The word *obey* means to be submissive to His commands and His authority, to surrender entirely to Him. So we see that He became the source of eternal life to those who what? Obey Him. It does not say *believe* there, because it speaks of a whole thing that we have to do. We have to obey, come under His authority without reservation. This is repentance. Unless we have experienced repentance, we are still not saved. This is because the forgiveness of sin presupposes repentance. Repentance is the entire surrender of the person's will. We have an illustration, a parable in Lk 14:31-32, concerning the absolute capitulation and surrender of a person's entire will to the will of the king who is coming. From this illustration we see why we call out to YAHSHUA as our King, our Savior, our Deliverer, our Emancipator, our Sovereign, in baptism. We confess that He is our King, our Sovereign. You cannot come out from under Satan's authority in this world until you confess another king. YAHSHUA is our King. Satan is the king of the world. This is written in the scriptures in 1 Jn 5:19. Satan controls every person in

the world and he has them locked into death, at least the first death. He cannot lock everyone into the second death, but he has them locked into the first death. He is the ruler over them concerning the first death, and no one can get out of the first death except those who die in baptism to come into Messiah YAHSHUA and surrender their life to Him. This is obedience. This is what obey means. It does not mean anything less. Look up the word *obey*.

So we have the first aspects of the gospel — who He is and what He did, including all about what the old sacrificial system in Israel meant — that a person's sins could be forgiven by laying their hands on a lamb whose throat was slit and blood poured out — and this is a picture to the Son of God who would come as the Lamb of God. John the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." So we see that aspect of the gospel. In order to be saved we have to see that, trust in and believe that. Then the other aspects of the gospel that come to us bring us into His fold, bring us in. If we go away merely believing that He did that, we do not know what to do with our life. We do not know what to do. We have other aspects of the gospel that bring us into His body — termination of our life in the world, obeying Him. The other commands are to give your life up and everything you have. So therefore we cannot continue to live in the world and believe in the Son of God because if so, we have not been obedient to all of the good news. The good news teaches us how to terminate our life. We come to the end of ourselves and give up our possessions. Everything that we can depend on in the world to sustain ourselves by is given up. We come into the sheepfold so we will be cared for by Him and seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and then He will give us our food and clothing in a different way than we used to get it. No longer do we get it by our own selves, by our own ingenuity, smartness, our own intelligence — all those things we depended upon. We cannot be on Madison Avenue and still be a believer in the Son of God and have eternal life. That kind of belief would not give you eternal life. It is only the belief that leads to obedience which gives you eternal life.

So we see in Acts 5:32, Peter was speaking about the Son of God and then here it is talking about the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him. It does not say that He gives eternal life to those who believe Him (though certainly we do have to believe; that is the first thing — you have to believe in the Son of God), but Acts 5:32 says that He gives eternal life to those who obey Him. It is just like Heb 5:9 says this, and this obedience is coming under His sovereignty. If you come under someone's sovereignty, you don't have yours anymore, you give it up to Him in obedience to His word. How does Acts 5:32 read? So the Holy Spirit is given to people who have submitted to His authority, who come under His commands. Like with a general in an army, you do not disobey the general. If you want to live and survive the war, you obey the general. If you do not, you are going to be killed by the enemy and you are going to be killed by the general. So, you have to be obedient if you want to live.

He gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him (Acts 5:32). It is talking about the same God there — the context is the Son of God and His word. We see it also in **Jn 3:36** that we need to believe in the Son of God but also we need to obey the Son of God. The word there is, "Whoever obeys ... but whoever disobeys." *Disobey* means to not come under His sovereignty, His lordship. Everyone in Christianity thinks they have come under His lordship somehow. They believe in the "lordship of Christ" but they do not know what it really means to come under His lordship, His sovereignty. Jn 3:36 — "*And he who believes in (has faith in, clings to, relies on) the Son has (now possesses) eternal life. But whoever disobeys (is unbelieving toward, refuses to trust in, disregards, is not subject to) the Son will never see (experience) life, but [instead] the wrath of God abides on him;...*" So if you have not obeyed the Son, you are still in the world. It means that you have not yet come out of the disbelieving, disobeying world and so you are still under the death sentence of the world. For you are either in the world or you are in YAHSHUA's body. Eph 2:12 says that before we were outside of Him, but now when we were baptized, we have come on the inside of Him, we have actually put Him on, we have come in under His skin. And salvation is the community, not only YAHSHUA; if you are in YAHSHUA, you are in the community. If you are truly in the community, you are in YAHSHUA the Messiah. Gal 3:27 speaks about coming in under His skin; we have actually put Him on. You are not going to get into Him unless you surrender absolutely to Him. We have had so many hundreds of people in the last 20 years who have not truly submitted and surrendered to the Son of God, but merely came into the community. But eventually they could not obey; they could not obey every day; eventually they were exposed, and they are still being exposed.

What does **Rom 10:16** say? It says that not all have obeyed the gospel or rendered submission, surrendered to the Son of God — not all have hearkened. "*Not all the Israelites accepted the good news. Because,*" it says, "*Isaiah says, 'Lord, who has believed our message?' who has believed our reports? If you believed it, then you would obey it — see? If your translation does not have 'obey' in it, it is a false translation.*"

So, not all have obeyed the good news. Why? Because they have not believed it. If we truly believed — then we had faith in, relied upon without doubt, we believed it without doubt — if we believed through the Spirit. A lot of people believe in Christianity but it was not through the Spirit of God that they believed, but just through brainwashing. We grew up believing; we believed in Jesus like we believed in Santa Claus. Santa Claus existed until you found out he didn't. He was a myth. So the time comes when you say, "Well, I guess Jesus is a myth too." But it is only through the Spirit that we can believe, truly believe, in order to obey.

Thus we see the words believe and obey. First of all you have to believe in, trust in, rely upon, by the Holy Spirit's conviction, that what you hear is true — absolute truth that comes into

your heart. **Rom 10:17** verifies that. Faith comes by hearing what is told to you. What is heard comes by the message, by the preaching of the message, from the lips of the Messiah. We can still hear Him now through a person. If we have heard the Messiah (and it says that faith comes by hearing what is told and what is heard comes by the preaching of the message that came from the lips of Messiah and still comes from Him through the Spirit — you have to hear the Spirit — that is the convincing proof that what you heard is true), then you can stake your life on it. Only then can you obey. Only then can you give up your sovereignty and your dream house — those things are not an issue anymore — you can give up your family if it needs to be. Only then can you give up your only son or daughter or five daughters or five sons or whatever you have to give up in order to be a disciple of YAHSHUA, regardless of the cost — when you are convinced of His validity. And it is a miracle to be convinced of that. It is faith. Faith is a miracle, and it comes to us by hearing, hearing of the word of God, the word of Messiah.

In **Jn 8:30,31** we see what obedience is now. We have come into a life of obedience and we must continue to obey Him. And then as we continue in His word, eventually it does its work in our lives. Eventually His word does its perfect work in our lives and it sets us free; it shows us how we can be free. For so many years we are entangled in certain things and we cannot even judge it right. But eventually, if we continue in His word (and we have to continue; a lot of people have not continued in His word), then it sets us free. But we have to continue. Then as we go on to be set free, as we go on and continue in His word, it brings us right up to verse 51 — where we cannot even see death.

But in verse 30 it says — "*but as He said these things, many believed in Him.*" But we see that this belief, that they believed there, was not the kind of belief that led to obedience. You can see this because if you go on down three or four verses, then they start reasoning and rationalizing their lives and then say that He is possessed by a demon and then even wanted to stone Him.

So you can see the kind of belief it takes to have eternal life. As we already said in Jn 2:24-5, they believed in Him but on YAHSHUA's part, He would not entrust Himself to them. Now the Holy Spirit stands to be imparted, entrusted to us when we have believed and repented, but some of the people that we have known in the past, people who have stood on the banks of baptism confessing that they believed in the Son of God, the Holy Spirit would not entrust Himself to them, would not actually come in to their spirit to be one with them. This is put into the scripture in Jn 2:24-25 to show us what happens and the parable that He told bears this out — that He will not entrust Himself to a person who has not surrendered his sovereignty to Him. And He knows every person's heart. It is a miracle to become one with the Holy Spirit eternally. So therefore God has to be convinced that we actually believe in His Son and will obey Him and surrender our lives to Him for obedience. When you go to the army and join the army, you

surrender your life to the army for obedience. You do not go in there to be disobedient. And so the army puts you to boot camp. Boot camp is to try to get out all the people who did not surrender their lives to the army. This is in order that the army might have a people who would win that war. And they have sergeants who order you around: tell you to do 50 pushups right now; to dig a hole down five feet and then fill it up; or they throw a cigarette butt in that hole and then make you cover it up. They will harass you and harangue you; they will do everything in the world. That is a good sergeant though, because he is training you to be obedient, so then in wartime they know that they can count on you — he will give you orders then and you will do it because you have been submissive. They try to filter you out; that is what they treat you that way for.

We have come to surrender our lives to Him to be raised up to be in His army, the greatest army that ever assembled, which you can see when He comes back — the stone kingdom. So we submit ourselves to Him for obedience. And He knows if we have rendered that or not, if we have given that or not. In Lk 14:31-32 it speaks about absolute surrender to the coming king that has a greater army than you have. So that king with 10,000 men, what did he do if he wanted to be saved? Well, he saw that a more glorious king was coming — he saw a greater king than him, so therefore he surrendered all that he had to that coming king. And so that king allowed Him to be in his army. The lesser king made terms of peace before the other king got there. But if he wanted to hang onto his own life, his own agenda, his own kingdom, then of course he would be destroyed when the king came.

These are the aspects of the gospel, the good news that brings a person from their own sovereignty into the kingdom of God so that they can have eternal life and they can be a part of our Father's eternal kingdom. For He is not going to let just anybody in. Because if you come in without surrendering, without receiving the Holy Spirit, you are going to be like a wolf in sheep's clothing coming in among the sheep, and you are going to hurt and destroy and tear up. It is not that we are a bunch of army sergeants, but it is good that the army has people like that — to try to wash you out. It's called a washing out; they try to wash you out in three months time. They take long hikes and marches, they get you up in the middle of the night and make you go on a real long walk and march. They do everything in the world to see if you are made of the stuff that is loyal to your county. If you are not, you might as well had gone to Canada, as far as they are concerned.

So faith comes by hearing and it is by His grace and mercy and kindness that we even have the chance to hear the good news. We have been talking about the comprehensive gospel.

Chets Barur: It spoke to me what you said in Heb 5 about obeying. It's recorded to show people that believing isn't enough, you have to obey the words to have eternal life. Obeying is

the result of believing. If you truly believe, you're going to obey, you're so thankful that you have eternal life that your going to do anything for our Master.

That's right. If you truly receive faith. Paul says that we are saved by faith alone, and the faith that we are saved by is the faith that our Master explained to us in the good news, in the gospel. The reason the rich young ruler would not give up His possessions was because he did not have faith. Our Master was illustrating what it means to have faith. What he said to the rich young ruler was to see if he had faith or not. If he had faith, he would not have had any problems giving up his possessions and the means that he lived on. He would have trusted in the Son of God. There was the Son of God in front of him and he would not give up his possessions to have eternal life. "What must I do to have eternal life?" he asked. But if you truly believed in the Son of God you would not have any trouble giving up your possessions no matter what it is. A lot of people think that it is works salvation to give up our possessions, but it is faith salvation. Faith without obedience is dead. It is dead faith, not real faith. That is why we have the full comprehensive gospel — all the aspects of it, all the things that we have to obey. The commandments to the apostles in Mt 28:20, that stuck with them, was to go out and teach them to obey all that I have commanded you — not just the good news, but obedience. Obedience.

In Jn 3:17,18, they are judged already for not receiving faith from hearing. They have heard it but have not believed, have not trusted. They are judged already for not believing the Son of God. They do not have to go to the judgment, they are judged already — they are worthy of the second death. The good news has come to them but they rejected it.

Hakam: I heard something clear in Rom 10:16-17 today, talking about what faith is. Faith comes from hearing the message through the lips of our Master and of course the word of our Master is recorded in the gospel. And the only way we could know what came out of His lips is what is written down in those four gospels. Anything else is speculation or man's reasoning or man's opinion. But what's written down in the gospels are the very words of Messiah, through which a person receives faith when they hear the words of Messiah. That's why we can't proclaim anything but Him crucified and tell people what He said.

What I saw is that people, say in Christianity, they won't make a distinction between believing and obeying. They say, "Well I believe so therefore I'm saved, I'm your brother so why don't you receive me? We're all on the path of learning how to obey." But I see it more and more clearly why it had to be different aspects of the gospel — that it's all one gospel. It's not like there's the gospel over there and then all these different aspects are something that's added on later, or something of that nature. But it has to be different aspects of the gospel. Because Jn 3:36 is really clear. I don't know how anybody who has really read Jn 3:36 can get around it, how they can ever say that they believe and have eternal life and not obey, because it makes it really clear.

But it's almost like reading a contradictory statement. It's directly contradictory if you don't hear that verse with faith. If faith is not imparted to you when you hear that verse, you think it's an exact contradiction. Because on the one hand it says that whoever believes in the Son has eternal life. So a Christian will latch on to that and say, "Hey I believe, I've got eternal life." Yet in the very next verse it says that whoever does not obey the Son will not see life. So how can you have eternal life and not see life? How can you have it and never see it? How can you have eternal life and have God's wrath still remain upon you? So Jn 3:36 is absolutely clear — it binds believing and obeying together, forever. There's no way around that verse. So therefore the only way you could ever bring those two together is in baptism. It's the only place you could ever bring believing in Him and obeying Him together, because baptism is the result of obeying the gospel — to surrender your life where you actually do make Him sovereign.

So if you never heard about the things that are written that our Master said and you keep what connects you to the world, connects you to your life under Satan's dominion — that have kept you from wanting to forsake all those things and wanting to make Him your sovereign, then you can't be saved. Then when you go down to the waters of baptism, the Holy Spirit is not going to give Himself to you, just like our Master said He didn't entrust Himself to them because He knew their heart. So I can see the importance of baptism, why it says whoever believes and is baptized is saved (Mk 16:16), because there is no way that you can actually terminate your life except through baptism, and there's no way you can terminate your life except by hearing the words of our Master that tell you what to do with your life.

It was really clear what you said about the rich young ruler. Our Master said those things to him about possessions to see if he had faith. And if he really had faith, if he was really entrusting himself to YAHSHUA and making YAHSHUA his sovereign, he wouldn't be worried about his possessions or about where he was going to get his next meal, or where he was going to live or about the clothes on his back. He would want to forsake everything to make YAHSHUA his sovereign. But when he heard the message about possessions, it proved that he didn't have faith, because he couldn't trust our Master. And he got depressed about it; he turned away and walked away very sad because he couldn't trust Him. That's really clear that obedience is only proving your trust in making Him sovereign. It's going to be a powerful message when our Father is giving the grace and wisdom to put belief and obedience together like it's supposed to be — bringing the different aspects of the gospel that put those two things together. Because Christians are under an anointing that traps them, keeps them from seeing that it's all one gospel.

It is just like Jn 5:24 and 1 Jn 3:14. John wrote both of them. And Jn 5:24 says absolutely that we have passed out of death and into life, absolutely, we have crossed over out of death and into eternal life because we have believed in His Son. And that is absolutely true... if you truly believed in Him. Define believe: trust in, rely upon Him. So therefore this is how we do pass out

of death and into life. But unless you are loving your brothers, you will not know if you did pass out of death and into life because there is no way the Spirit is going to impart that knowing in you unless you are in the vine where it is possible that you can love your brothers because that is what you are saved for — to love your brothers and sisters. You are saved for a purpose, not to have eternal life and go to heaven. You are saved from yourself in order to obey. That is why it says whoever believes in Messiah, whoever trusts in Him, has eternal life. 1 Jn 3:14 — This is how we know we have eternal life. That is what 1 John was written for — the Gnostics. The Gnostics get a hold of Jn 5:24 — Christianity is gnosticism — they have the knowledge but they do not have the environment.

Jn 5:24-25 is really important. Verse 25 explains verse 24 — about where faith comes from. Those who truly believe by hearing, if faith came to them, even though they die they are going to hear the voice of the Son of God and they are going to be resurrected. It is going to be a terrible day if they haven't really heard the Son of God and they die expecting to be resurrected, but they cannot hear Him. They will not be able to hear. But those who do hear will be resurrected.

Baptism is not something we do after we are saved. Baptism is the actual event of salvation. Baptism without faith cannot save anyone. Instead, that is how you get into Messiah is through baptism. You can get wet but it does not help you. But baptism is the actual burying of your old life and being resurrected out of the water into a new life. It is burying your old life, putting to death your old life of sin and guilt, and then the Holy Spirit enters into your life and connects with you and you connect with Him and thus you become one with Messiah. And that is resurrection. That is how you get into Messiah — we are baptized into Messiah. It is not a ritual, it is an act of faith. You are saved through that act of faith — of believing and trusting and obeying. The first act is obedience — to be baptized. Paul believed (Acts 22:16) but was not yet baptized. His sins would not be washed away until he did that. He believed but he had not been immersed into the Son, submitted to the Son in baptism — your act of submission to Him, coming under His rule, under His authority, born anew, born right there and then of the water and the Spirit. Baptism is the initial thing that proved your faith at that time. We always remember our baptism.

1 Cor 12:13 says we are baptized by the Spirit into the body. That is how you come into the body, the community of people, is when you are identified with Messiah. Now wherever you go, you take Him, you bear His mark and seal — you belong to Messiah.

Rom 10:9 says that you believe the message that you hear; you believe in your heart that God has raised YAHSHUA from the dead. And once you do, then you can make that confession with your mouth. That is completed salvation.

No matter how much we believed before, we could not obey because we were not brought into His living body, serving each other, working alongside of each other, building the body, where everything we do we do for each other — we do it for Him.

This is what is being restored that has been lost for hundreds of years.