

YOU 2.0: God's Version of You

The 'already' ...

"But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy."

Titus 3:4,5 (NIV)

"Therefore, since we have been *justified* through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 5:1 (NIV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the *new creation* has come: the old has gone, the new is here!"

2 Cor 5:17 (NIV)

"To the church of God which is at Corinth, ..., *saints* by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ ..."

1 Cor 1:2 (NASB)

... and the 'not yet'

"... he who *began* a good work in you will *carry it on* to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Phil 1:6 (NIV)

"[God] decided from the outset to *shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son*. ... We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him."

Romans 8:29,30 (MSG)

Obedience - my cooperation in the transformation

Obedience – The act of following instructions or recognizing someone else's authority. Giving up my rights and freedoms; submitting to another person.

Obedience is important to God.

"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will, but to do the will of him who sent me."

John 6:38 (NIV)

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

Luke 9:23 (NIV)

Obedience is a choice.

"Because you say so, I will."

Luke 5:5 (NIV)

You, who knows what is best and loves me most. You, who I trust.

Obedience is a hard choice.

It may be contrary to what I know.

It may be contrary to what the world thinks it knows.

It may be contrary to my own personal feelings and desires.

"Christianity has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried." G.K. Chesterton

Obedience cannot be separated from:

1) Love for God and for others:

"This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands."

1 John 5:2,3 (NIV)

2) Faith:

"By faith, Noah ... obeyed ... By faith, Abraham ... obeyed"

Hebrews 11:7,8

3) Worship:

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship."

Romans 12:1 (NIV)

4) Testimony, blessing, safety, wisdom, ...

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5,6