

# Prosperity Through Obedience

**“Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed. ” (I Chronicles 22:13).**

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Parting words of the aged are usually so weighty that the wise who wants to maximise his chance of progress through the benefit of experience will do well to pay attention to. Just before his death, aged David admonished his son and successor to the throne on what he considered the priorities for good success, not only in this life but also in eternity. His advice focused on the need for Solomon to obey God's commandments if he was to prosper (I Chronicles 22:13).

Today, some see the Bible as an obstacle to their joy and prosperity, but David through life's experience discovered it to be the route to prosperity. This poignantly confirms that **“... as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts”** (Isaiah 55:9).

What many see as irrelevant today is what David considered as essentials to prosperity. While instructing Solomon in the presence of the leaders in Israel, he publicly reminded him again of what God told him **“Moreover I will establish his kingdom for ever, if he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day”** (I Chronicles 28:7). It is time for us to rise up to the level of God's kind of thinking and see things the way He sees them so that we can achieve the prosperity that planned for us.

David's admonition contains two important phrases that make a world of difference - **“be constant”** and **“as at this day”**. The last phrase “as at this day” suggests that Solomon was at that time obeying the commandments of God. David did not take it for granted that because Solomon was keeping God's laws, there was no need to instruct him on obedience.

**“Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. ” (Psalms 67:5-7).**



David knew the nature of man, that it is when things are hard or when they are facing difficult or uncertain conditions that the thoughts of expediency comes in that ultimately make them to disobey God's word. That is when they start reneging on their commitment to serve God or remain faithful in tithing - just to cite two examples (see Daniel 6:16).

God's word to Solomon remains His word to all believers today, that is, “God will establish us in success and prosperity, irrespective of current situations and circumstances, only if we remain constant to do His commandments and His judgments”. It takes dying to self in order to obey God. “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal” (John 12:24-25).

God's word to Job remains His word to us **“If they obey and serve him, they shall spend their days in prosperity, and their years in pleasures”** (Job 36:11). Truly, **“... the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day”** (Proverbs 4:18).