



Deuteronomy 6:18

**Do what is right
and good in the
LORD's sight, so all
will go well with
you.**

NO DEVIATION FROM GOD'S COMMANDS WERE ALLOWED

Leviticus 10:1–3 (ESV)

1 Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered *unauthorized fire* before the LORD, which he had not commanded them. **2** And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. **3** Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the LORD has said: ‘Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.’ ” And Aaron held his peace.

COUNTLESS ANIMAL SACRIFICES REQUIRED IN OT RITUALS

Sources say as many as 1.2 million animals sacrificed DAILY
142,000 cattle, sheep and goats at Dedication of Temple

- **Isaiah 1:10–13 (NLT) — 10** Listen to the LORD, you leaders of “Sodom.” Listen to the law of our God, people of “Gomorrah.” **11** “What makes you think I want all your sacrifices?” says the LORD. “I am sick of your burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fattened cattle. I get no pleasure from the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. **12** When you come to worship me, who asked you to parade through my courts with all your ceremony? **13** Stop bringing me your meaningless gifts; the incense of your offerings disgusts me! As for your celebrations of the new moon and the Sabbath and your special days for fasting— they are all sinful and false. I want no more of your pious meetings.
- **Isaiah 1:16–17 (NLT) — 16** Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways. **17** Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.

GOD'S PLAN FOR A BLESSED LIFE: RESULTS OF DOING LIFE GOD'S WAY

- **Deuteronomy 12:28 (NLT)** — **Be careful to obey** all my commands, **so that** all will go well with you and your children after you, because you will be doing what is good and pleasing to the LORD your God.
- **Deuteronomy 5:33 (NLT)** — **Stay on the path** that the LORD your God has commanded you to follow. **Then** you will live long and prosperous lives in the land you are about to enter and occupy.
- **1 John 3:22 (NLT)** — And we will receive from him whatever we ask **because we obey him** and do the things that please him.
- **John 9:31 (ESV)** — We know that God does not listen to sinners, **but if** anyone is a **worshiper** of God and **does his will**, **God listens to him**.
- **3 John 2 (TPT)** — Beloved friend, I pray that you are **prospering in every way** and that you continually enjoy good health, **just as your soul is prospering**.

GOD'S NEW AND BETTER COVENANT CAME THROUGH CHRIST

Hebrews 8:6 (ESV)

But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.

Hebrews 10:11–16 (NLT)

11 Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. **12** But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. **13** There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet. **14** For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy. **15** And the Holy Spirit also testifies that this is so. For he says, **16** "This is the new covenant I will make with my people on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."

LOVE LEADS TO OBEDIENCE...OBEDIENCE PRESERVES LOVE

- **John 14:15 (NLT)** — “If you love me, obey my commandments.
- **John 14:21 (NLT)** —Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.”
- **John 14:24 (NLT)** —Anyone who doesn’t love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me.
- **John 15:7 (NLT)** —But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!
- **John 15:10 (NLT)** —When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.

- **Leviticus 26:3–13 (NLT)** — **3** “If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, **4 I will send you the seasonal rains.** The land will then yield its crops, and the trees of the field will produce their fruit. **5 Your threshing season will overlap** with the grape harvest, and your **grape harvest will overlap** with the season of planting grain. You will **eat your fill and live securely** in your own land. **6** “I will **give you peace** in the land, and you will be able to sleep with no cause for fear. I will rid the land of wild animals and keep your enemies out of your land. **7** In fact, you will **chase down your enemies and slaughter them with your swords.** **8** Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand! All your enemies will fall beneath your sword. **9** “I will **look favorably upon you,** making you **fertile and multiplying** your people. And I will fulfill my covenant with you. **10** You will have such a **surplus of crops** that you will need to clear out the old grain to make room for the new harvest! **11** I will **live among you,** and I will not despise you. **12** I will walk among you; I will be your God, and you will be my people. **13** I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt so you would no longer be their slaves. I broke the yoke of slavery from your neck so you can walk with your heads held high.

THE PROMISES OF GOD

BLESSING FROM OBEDIENCE (Lev. 26:3-13)

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| 1. Seasonal Rains: | Promise of God's Covenant |
| 2. Harvest: | Promise of God's Prosperity to us |
| 3. Enemies Dispelled: | Promise of God's Protection |
| 4. Favor: | Promise of God's Approval |
| 5. Surplus: | Promise of God's Abundant Blessing on life |
| 6. Relationship: | Promise of God's Love |

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JESUS CAME WITH A BETTER COVENANT AND BETTER PROMISES

John 10:10 (ESV) — The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.