

INTRODUCTION:

A. Why don't more people obey the gospel?

B. It is so simple.

1. Believe- Jn. 3:16.
2. Repent- Lk. 13:3.
3. Confess- Rom. 10:9-10.
4. Baptized- Mk. 16:16.

C. Yet we read Rom. 10:16.

D. The Gospel has no power if you don't believe in it.

1. Rom. 1:16.
2. 1 Thess. 2:13.
3. 1 Cor. 15:1-4.

E. Let's notice two points on this subject.

1. The majority of the people have never been willing to serve and obey God.
2. Some reasons why people don't obey the Gospel.

BODY:

I. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE HAVE NEVER BEEN WILLING TO SERVE AND OBEY GOD.

A. In the days of Noah only 8 were saved.

1. 1 Pet. 3:20.
2. 2 Pet. 2:5.

B. There were not ten righteous persons in Sodom.

1. Gen. 18:32 **Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy [it] for the sake of ten."**

2. Jude 7.

C. The people of Jeremiah's day- Jer. 6:16. **Thus says the Lord: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'**

D. Many rejected the preaching of John- Lk. 7:29-30.

E. Many rejected the preaching of Christ.

1. Matt. 11:20-24.

2. Matt. 23:37-39.

F. On the day of Pentecost only 3,000 obeyed out of hundreds of thousands- Acts 2:41.

G. Jesus even said this would be so- Matt. 7:13-14.

II. SOME REASONS WHY PEOPLE FAIL TO OBEY THE GOSPEL!

A. Many do not know the truth.

1. Acts 3:14-19 (Still to repent).

2. 1 Cor. 2:7-8.

3. 1 Tim. 1:12-14.

B. Many close their eyes to keep from learning- Matt. 13:15.

C. The pleasures of sin keep many from obeying the Gospel.

1. Heb. 11:24-26.

2. Titus 3:3.

D. Some are so deep in sin that they can not turn back- 2 Pet. 2:14.

E. Many go on sinning because they do not have to suffer the consequences immediately.

1. Ecc. 8:11 **Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.**

2. But notice Ecc. 8:12-13. **Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and his days**

are prolonged, yet I surely know that it will be well with those who fear God, who fear before Him. But it will not be well with the wicked; nor will he prolong his days, which are as a shadow, because he does not fear before God..

3. Like using credit cards.

F. Some have sinned and not obeyed so long that they have hardened and seared their conscience and see no need to obey.

1. 1 Tim. 4:1-2.
2. Heb. 3:7-8.
3. Heb. 3:13.

G. Some do not follow Christ because they might lose the praise of men- Jn. 12:42-43.

H. Some are waiting for a convenient season.

1. Acts 24:25.
2. But obeying God is not a matter of convenience!
3. One must obey God even if it cost him his life.

I. Many are unwilling to leave their kin and friends.

1. Luke 12:51-53.
2. No one is worth going to hell over.

J. Many have sinned so much that they love the sinning business.

1. Repenting becomes harder and harder.
2. Acts 3:19.
3. Acts 3:26.
4. Jn. 3:19-21.

CONCLUSION:

- A. The majority of people are not willing to serve and obey God.
- B. They never have been!
- C. There are many reasons.
- D. We must accept this as a fact.
- E. Notice what Abraham told the rich man- Lk. 16:27-31.
- F. We hope you will listen to the one who rose from the dead and obey the Gospel today.