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Lesson 115 2 Samuel 21:10-14 Sorrow and Obedience

Read Daniel 1:8-16. What did Daniel refuse to do?

Through God's favor on Daniel, what was the result of Daniel's refusal to do this?

Read Daniel 3:12-30. What command did Shadrach Meshach, and Abednego refuse to obey?

What was the prescribed consequence of their decision?

Did this knowledge change their minds?

What was the result of their disobedience? (Look especially to verses 28-30)

Read Esther 3:2-6. What did Mordecai refuse to do?

Who became enraged at this?

What did he decide to do?

Was the consequence only for Mordecai?

Read Acts 5:27-33. Why were Peter and the apostles brought before the high priest?

What reason did Peter give for continuing to teach in Jesus' name?

What was the reaction from the council?

Read Acts 6:8-15, and 7:51-60. What was Stephen's crime?

What was his punishment?

What was Stephen's reaction to this?

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. How are we to treat God's words that He commands us?

What are we to do with the commands He has given to us?

How important should His commands be to us?

This command from Deuteronomy is repeated all throughout the entire Bible. It is of utmost importance that we pass on to our children what the Bible says. This responsibility rests first and foremost on parents, not the priests or the church or even extended family.

As you spend time with God today, consider these examples from Scripture of people who obeyed God, even knowing it could cost them their lives. Ask God to help you to know His word, not just to read it, but to know it. Ask Him to help you to impart that knowledge to your children and to take that responsibility seriously.

Consider whether you obey God rather than men in your daily life, even in the "small" things. Do you join in slander or gossip? Do you stand up when someone maligns God's word, or do you hope they won't ask you to say anything? Do you go along with the crowd, or do you stand out?

Ask God to help you to see what it means to be holy and set apart for Him. Ask Him to give you the strength to be set apart and to persevere through the slings and arrows that will come as you defend your faith. Ask Him to help you to stand firm, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist and the breastplate of righteousness in place.