

## IS GOD PARTICULAR



While talking with her minister, a lady said, "I know that I am not doing what I should, but God will understand. I am certain that He will overlook my little sins as long as I am sincere." Another said "Other Christians do not do this so why should I?"

This seems to be the attitude of many professed Christians today. They are in effect saying by their actions that God is not particular, that He winks at sin as long as the person professes to be sincere. The Bible promises that God will save His people from their sins, but in no place does it say He will save them in their sins. Read Matthew 7:21-23.

The Bible teaches that God has certain laws in the universe and that these laws exist to protect the freedom of His creatures. These laws were given because God saw that the violation of these principles would bring sickness, sorrow, and death. In Proverbs 16:25 Solomon said, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

The man who drinks a lethal dose of arsenic, thinking that it is cough syrup, will be just as dead as the man who drinks arsenic with the knowledge that it is poison. What a man thinks does not change the substance of what he drinks. Because a person thinks that wrong is right, it does not follow that wrong becomes right.

It is true that God has in times past overlooked some of the wrong acts of mankind committed in ignorance, but now He has given man enough light so that there is no excuse for sin. Jesus said to the Pharisees, "If you were blind, you would have no sin: but now you say, We see; therefore your sin remains." John 9:41. Paul, in Acts 17:30, states that in the times of man's ignorance God overlooked his sinful behavior, but now He commands all men every where to repent.

## WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT OBEDIENCE

“Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father in heaven.”.

Matthew 7:21

As you study, be thinking about the Life Quest questions.

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

### HIS WORD SAYS

1. How does God look upon man's refusal to do that which he knows to be right?

James 4:17.

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2. What did God tell Adam would result if he ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil? Genesis 2:17.

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*Adam and Eve disobeyed God when they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In Genesis 3:19-24 we are given a picture of the punishment that was visited upon man because of his refusal to obey this command. Ultimately they aged and then died. The reason their death was not more immediate was because as soon as sin entered grace abounded, giving us each opportunity to repent and be saved.*

3. When Lot's wife carelessly disobeyed and looked back at what she missed, what happened to her? Genesis 19:15-17, 24-26.

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*Lot's wife regretted leaving her life of sin behind. It was her love for sin that God punished. She was not thankful that God was trying to save her from sin and destruction.*

4. What happened to Saul because he refused to do what God had instructed him to do?  
1 Samuel 15:22-23.

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5. When religious men became careless in the way that they treated God's holy things,  
what happened to them? 2 Samuel 6:6-7.

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*God commanded that only certain men should touch this sacred piece of furniture where the presence of God was manifested in the ancient tabernacle. God had warned that whoever else touched it would die. (Numbers 4:15.) Uzzah was not one such person with permission to touch the ark, and his presumption in touching the ark cost him his life. As you can see, God is particular*



6. What happened to the man of God who listened to another man rather than follow  
God's instructions? 1 Kings 13:8-26.

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7. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira when they lied to the Holy Spirit? Acts 5:1-11

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8. From the foregoing experiences taken from the Bible can you see that God is very  
particular?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

*From the examples already given, it is easy to see that God is very particular in the obedience He expects from His children. It is true that God is merciful and gracious, but He is also just and will by no means clear the guilty (Exo 34:7). It should always be our aim to obey God's word implicitly and take Him seriously when He warns us against sin.*

9. In the judgment day, what will Jesus say to those, who profess to be His followers but deny Him by their lives? Matthew 7:21-23.

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*Iniquity is sin (also translated as 'lawlessness' in some bible versions), and the Bible defines sin as the transgression of God's Holy law. (1 John 3:4)*

10. According to this statement by Jesus, who is to be saved? Matthew 7:21.

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11. What does the Bible say was in the heart of Christ that caused Him to delight to do God's will? Psalm 40:7,8.

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*In the new covenant God promises to place His law in our hearts and in our minds. Hebrews 10:16. When God does this, it becomes our desire to do His will, and by His Spirit we are enabled to keep His law. Ezekiel 36:26-27 & Rom 8:4.*

12. How much of this law can the individual violate without becoming a sinner? James 2:10-12.

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*A single sin is all it takes to be guilty of all. While He was on earth, Christ always admonished those that He helped that they should 'sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee' (John 5:14). This is still the message He is giving to His people today. Only in obedience to God's law can we find peace and happiness with God and with others. If all people obeyed God perfectly, we would have the atmosphere of heaven on earth.*

13. How did Jesus describe what the Jewish leaders were doing by substituting tradition for the commands of God? Mark 7:5-8,13.

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*God only accepts our worship when we offer it according to His will. Just as God rejected Cain's offering, not being the animal sacrifice God required, God also rejects false forms of worship. God is particular for good reason, it is for our benefit to obey Him implicitly.*

14. What is someone who professes to love Jesus but does not keep His commandments called? 1 John 2:4, 4:20.

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*It is a fearful thing to be labelled by God as a liar. We are all familiar with the saying that actions speak louder than words. Those who love God will display it by their actions.*

15. What motivating power will cause us to be willing and particular in our service to God? 1 John 5:1-3.

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*Pure love is all that God has for us, and as we get to know Him, that love rubs off onto us. He asks us to love one another as He loves us, and this in turn shows how much we love Him. How is it with you?*





"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. "

James 1:25

### LIFE QUEST:

Have you thoughtfully reviewed these Questions?

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

### YOUR TURN

Check the statements that most closely reflect your response to this study.

\_\_\_\_ I feel comfortable with my understanding of this subject, and I do love Jesus.

\_\_\_\_ I still have some struggles in my life. Please pray for me.

\_\_\_\_ It is my plan to accept the free gift of salvation and fully follow the commandments and teachings of the Word of God and let His love for me become my love for others.

\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_