

*The Daystar Devotional*

by

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*To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ . . .*

*In Whom I live and move and have my being . . .*

*and*

*To Skye, my dear friend and sister in Christ . . .*

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“But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” (James 1: 22)

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Precious Disciple of Jesus Christ, the Daystar,

When He walked the earth, Jesus attracted many followers with His teachings. These followers became known as His disciples. The word “disciple” comes from the Latin word *discipulus* which means *pupil*.

To be a disciple of Jesus Christ means to be a pupil or a student of His teachings. But even more than that, to be a disciple of Jesus Christ means to obey His teachings.

Many of us fail to receive the fullness of God’s blessings in our lives because we are hearers only and not doers of His Word. Usually our failure to obey the Word does not stem from a deliberate decision to disobey. Believers in Christ want to obey Him. The problem, I think, lies mostly in our failure to remember His Word.

We hear the Word preached in our churches on Sundays. We read the Word in our Bibles. But when it comes time to obey the Word, how many of us always remember what we heard on Sunday or what we read in our Bible? Sad to say, I have not always remembered that I have heard or read and, therefore, have not always obeyed what I have heard or read. We need to remember the Word in order to obey it.

Why is it so important to obey God’s Word? There are many answers to this question, but the very significant one mentioned in our Scripture verse (James 1: 22) is that failure to obey God’s Word results in deception. In practical terms, this deception can manifest itself in wrong decisions with serious long-term consequences. But when we hear AND obey the Word of God, we will make right choices and we will be blessed (James 1: 23-25).

Let me encourage you today to keep looking into God’s Word so that you won’t forget it. Then, when you are faced with a choice between doing something your way or doing it God’s way, you will remember what the Word says and you will obey it. And then you will be greatly blessed. *‘But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does (James 1: 25).*

Be blessed today and every day. Hear God’s Word and obey it!

Your sister in Christ,

Dr. MaryAnn Diorio

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