

Secrets of the Abundant Life-3

The Secret of Abiding is Obeying

TEXT: John 10:10; John 15:8, 4, 10

INTRODUCTION:

- A. THE SECRET TO ABUNDANT LIFE IS BEARING FRUIT.
- B. THE SECRET TO BEARING FRUIT IS ABIDING IN JESUS(**John 15:5**).
- C. BUT WHAT IS THE SECRET OF ABIDING IN JESUS?

I. THE SECRET OF ABIDING.

- A. THE SECRET OF ABIDING IS OBEYING THE COMMANDS OF JESUS.
 - 1. By keeping His commands we abide in His love(**John 15:10a**).
 - 2. By keeping His commands we will be His friends(**John 15:14**).
 - 3. And restated by His beloved disciple, John(**1 John 3:24a**).
- B. THE PRINCIPLE OF ABIDING THROUGH OBEYING.
 - 1. Governed Jesus' relationship with His Father while on earth(**John 15:10b**).
 - 2. Jesus' desire to keep His Father's Will documented(**John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38**).
 - 3. We abide in Christ by keeping His commandments(**1 John 2:3-6**).
 - 4. Otherwise we prove ourselves to be liars!

II. THE IMPORTANCE OF OBEDIENCE.

- A. AS STRESSED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT...
 - 1. With the nation of Israel(**Deut. 10:12, 13; Isa 1:18-20**).
 - 2. With the example of King Saul(**1 Sam. 15:22-23**).
 - 3. As concluded by Solomon in his search for meaning(**Ecc. 12:13**).
- B. AS STRESSED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.
 - 1. By Jesus, on several occasions.
 - a. During the sermon on the mount(**Matt. 7:21-23, 24-27; Luke 6:46**).
 - b. In describing His true family(**Mark 3:31-35**).
 - c. In giving the "Great Commission"(**Matt. 28:18-20**).
 - 2. By the apostles(**Acts 10:34, 35, 48; 17:30; Rom. 6:17-18**).

CONCLUSION:

- A. OBEDIENCE IS ESSENTIAL TO PLEASING GOD(**Heb. 5:8-9**).
- B. HAVE OBEYED THE COMMANDS OF JESUS?(**1 John 5:3**).
- C. TO THOSE WHO OBEY GOD GIVES THIS PROMISE(**Rev. 22:14**).

The secret to living is bearing fruit;
 The secret to bearing fruit is abiding;
 The secret to abiding is obeying...
 Have you obeyed Jesus?