



**“Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.” – Luke 5:5**

# Excusing Obedience

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Babah

# Necessity of 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.” (Matt. 7:21)
- “And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him...” (Heb. 5:9)
- “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?” (Gal. 3:1)

# 1. Busy tending to worldly matters

## Parable of the Great Supper

- “But they all with one accord began to make excuses.” (Lk. 14:18)



## 2. I do not agree with or am not persuaded by the command or request

### Jonah

- “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.” (Jon. 4:2)



## 2. I do not agree with or am not persuaded by the command or request

### **Namaan the Syrian**

- “But Naaman became furious, and went away and said, “Indeed, I said to myself, ‘He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.’”  
(2 Kg. 5:11)



# Commandments

- “[Let there be] neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.” (Eph. 5:4)
- “Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.” (Matt. 15:11)
- “...do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.” (Lk. 6:27-28)

### 3. Fear of the unknown

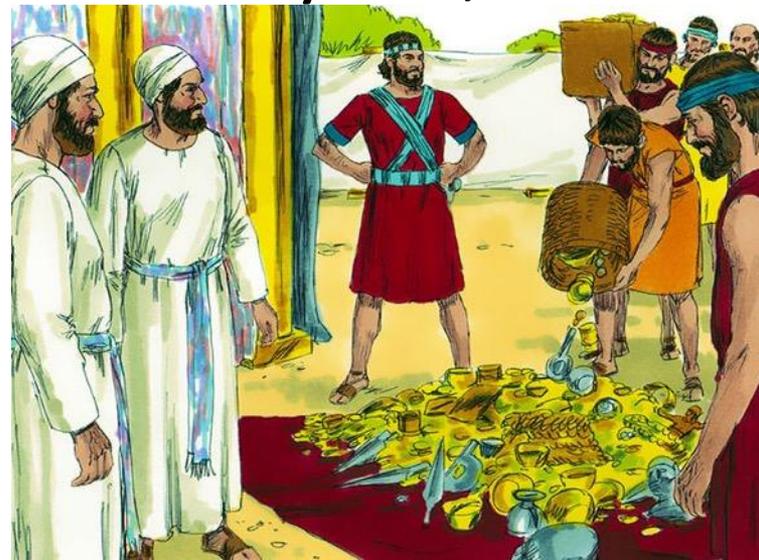
## King Saul offers a sacrifice



# 4. Greed

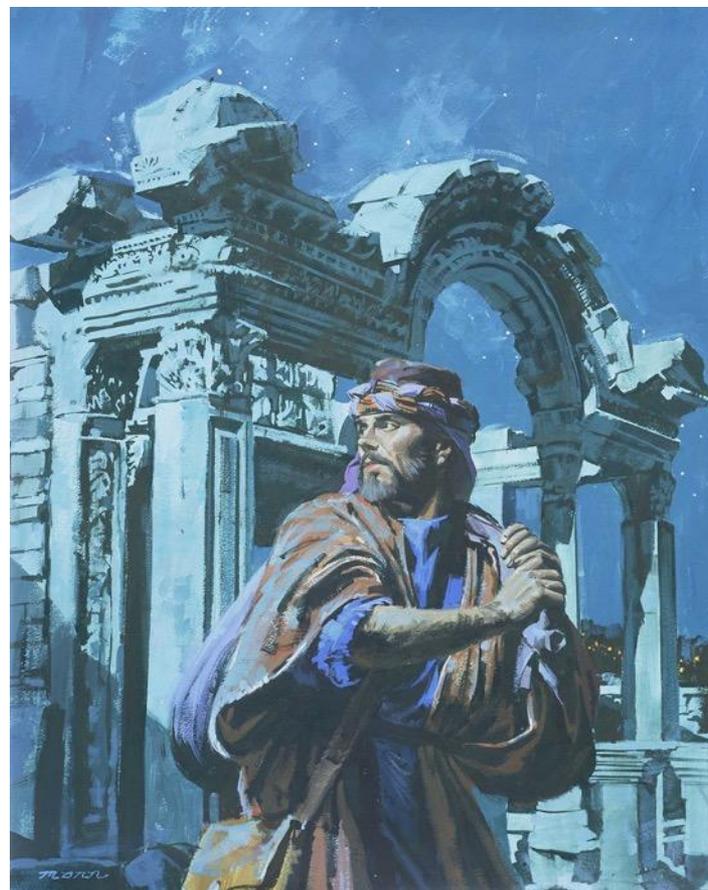
## Achan son of Carmi

- “Indeed I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel, and this is what I have done: When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.”  
(Jos. 7:20-21)



# 5. Unbelief

- He is serious in His commands
- He will be just
- Ex: Achan son of Carmi



## 6. Inconvenient

### The calling of four fishermen



# Lesson in Obedience from Four Fishermen

1. They stated their reason but did not allow it to supersede their faith.
2. Their obedience was immediate
3. They did not become preoccupied by the gift (fish) that they forgot the gift-giver.
4. They were willing to sacrifice
  - Obedience – compliance with an order, request, or law or submission to another's authority