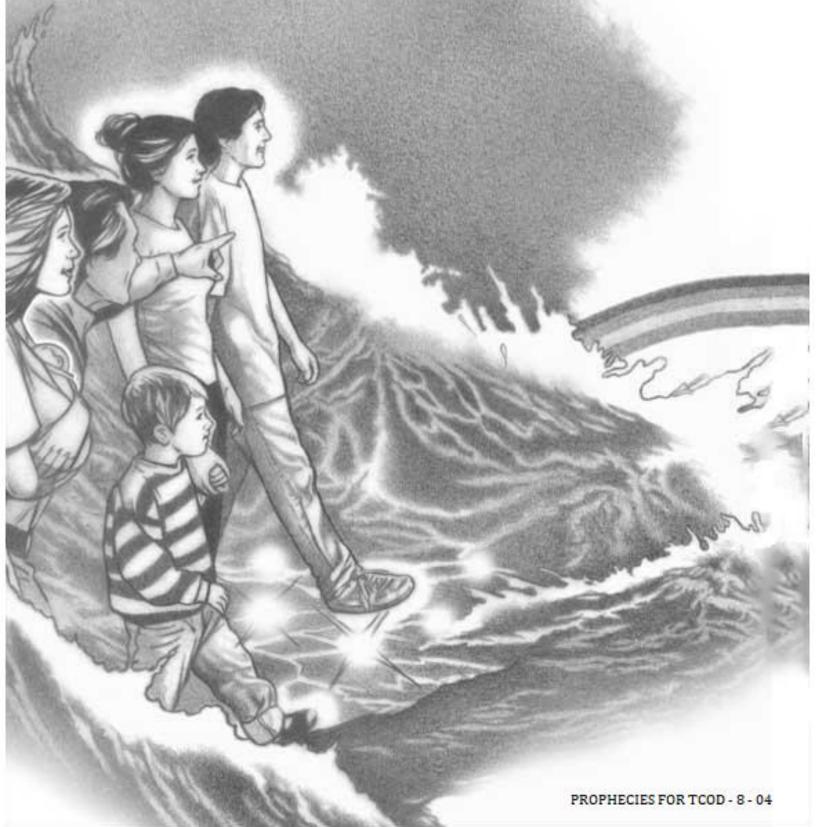
OBEDIENCE GETS GOD'S PROTECTION



Obedience Gets God's Perfect Protection

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Excerpts from Dad's writings in the Letters:

Let me tell you, we are in a war and you'd better keep in tune and in touch with the Holy Spirit and on God's territory all the time and close to His Word and in the right spirit and constantly in prayer and seeking the Lord and praying for His protection and His help and thanking Him constantly for His blessings and staying mighty close to the Lord, or you're going to be singed by that old fire-breathing Dragon! If you go running around outside of the tower of God's protection and the holy place of His will, that old Devil's going to be on your trail and try to give you all kinds of trouble! ⁽¹⁾

If you run around outside the tower of God's protection, the Devil will scorch you with his fire! If you don't stay close to the Lord in His will, obeying Christ, the Lord will let the Devil touch you! Otherwise He won't let him touch a hair of your head if you're right where He wants you. (2)

The only time we're vulnerable is when we ourselves get ourselves out of the protective force field, so to speak, and we go astray or we disobey or we get careless, or we fear, or we doubt. All of these are sins. I don't think the Devil can touch us except as a penalty of our sins or shortcomings, and I don't think the Lord will let him do that unless we persist in it. (3)

It's things we do ourselves that usually bring on the attacks of the Enemy because we have let the bars down, we have let our force field of protection get a little too holey, and we have let the defenses down. And just like physically and our health, our resistance is down to the attacks of the Enemy and we let him get in! I don't believe the Devil can lay a finger on a Christian unless that Christian allows him to in some way, by some weakness or disobedience or failure or lack of prayerfulness. I really don't! (4)

If you get out of touch with the Lord, watch out, because then the Devil gets in touch with you or some member of your family, and that's his privilege if you run outside the Lord's protection.

The Lord spoke once and said the reason that certain people were having so much sickness was because they were running outside the tower of the lord's protection and

that they were not hiding in the secret place or staying under the Lord's wings. You've got to stay close to the Lord like a little chicken under the wings of the mother hen, in tune with God and in touch with Him in prayer and really touching God! (5)

If we run outside the magic circle of God's protection by disobeying and running away from the Lord etc., the Devil is then allowed to afflict us outside because we're outside of the force field of God's protection. We've run out of God's Will and disobeyed Him and gone out and done other things, therefore the Devil is allowed to conquer us there. But if we stay inside of the magic circle, the forcefield of God's protection, then the Devil is not allowed to touch us, not allowed to come in, only when we get on his territory. ⁽⁶⁾

You suffer sometimes for your own sins, somehow or another disobeying the Lord or doing something where, in a sense, bound by His Own rules and His Own laws, He can't protect you and He has to let the Devil spank you or punish you or scorch you or give you what you deserve for violating the rules. You'd better stay close to the Lord and don't get disobedient, don't run outside of God's will and His protection. ⁽⁷⁾

Obey God and be in the right condition spiritually and obedient and where you ought to be, doing what you ought to be doing, serving God as you should be. You can't expect God's perfect protection and full blessings when you're not where you belongeither physically or spiritually. (8)

You really need to pray for the Lord's protection and stay in His will and be obedient and remain within His tower of protection and not go running around without prayer or without being sure you're in the will of God, lest the Devil really burn you or singe you because you're running around where you shouldn't be! (9)

God cannot protect you, prosper or bless you when you are out of His Will and running around outside of the secret place and from under His shadow, His wings, and the Fortress of perfect fellowship with Him! When you do this, you can no longer claim the protection and defenses of Psalm 91, and He may even let you fall prey to the Enemy, because you're playing around with fire and living so close to Enemy territory!

As long as you keep trying to please the Lord and obey and stay in His Will and are doing your best to serve Him, He'll do His best to take care of you. But if you go running off your own way, doing your own thing, He's no longer responsible. It's only when you

abide within the tower of His Will under His wings, that you can expect His protection.

If we get outside the camp somewhere where we shouldn't be, out of God's will and away from His protection, then we deserve to get it! Because we're disobeying the Lord, we're getting out of touch and fellowship with Him and others and we're running astray! So of course then He lets the Devil slap us around to whack us back and drive us back into line.

Don't forget, the devil's working for the lord too! Didn't you ever think about that? He's God's little devil and demon and imp and chore boy to whack us around with God's permission when we get out of line! But otherwise he doesn't have a right to put a finger on us! (11)

The shepherd is like the Lord, we're the sheep, and the sheepdogs are like the devil's angels! (Or you can call them the Lord's angels if you prefer.) The devils are working for the Lord to help keep us in line. They nip at the strays, the backsliders, people who get out of line, out of God's protection, out of the protection of the Shepherd. And yet the sheepdogs belong to the Shepherd, they're working for Him! They're literally taking care of the sheep by keeping them in line and keeping them in the flock and not letting them get away with anything. (12)

If the Lord showed me that the sheepdogs are the devils, then who the hell are these wolves that we have so much trouble with? They're a lot more trouble than the Devil, those absolutely incorrigible totally illegal and unlawful wolves! But in a sense, they're fulfilling their part in the plan, because if you get out of line too far, or if it's God's will they destroy you for your testimony, well, then even they fulfill a part of the program. Even wolves have their place in God's creation or He wouldn't have made them! When the sheep stray away too far and get completely out of the flock and even beyond the protection of the shepherd and the sheepdogs, then they fall into the hands of the wolves. (13)

Help us not to stray one little step or fall out of the way where we get nipped. Help us to stay close to You, Jesus, in the center of Thy Will, then we know we're in the center of Thy provision and protection and blessing and usefulness and we have no problems, nothing to worry about. We can trust You utterly by faith because we know we're being obedient and doing Thy will. And that's all we can do, Lord, the rest is up to You. (14)

So we just ask You to keep us obedient, doing Your Work, faithfully preaching the Gospel of Your Love, winning as many eternal souls into Your Kingdom as we can! Please help us to keep on the right track, which is in Your Word and obeying it! All we have to do is obey, Lord, and do what You tell us to do, and let You show the way as You give us the strength and the power to do it. You'll do it all if we will just do our part and obey and go and try to bring forth fruit, in Jesus' name. Hallelujah! (15)

Prophecies, Jesus speaking:

If I've asked you to do something, no matter how small or how big, and you obey, I give you peace of mind and heart. I bless you for your willingness to follow. You will feel My blessings in your life--My protection, safekeeping, contentment, satisfaction, peace of mind, and general well-being. (16)

You have the promise of My blessing, My peace, My protection, and My guidance on your lives when you obey Me while on Earth. Such promises are dearly sought-after treasures in the world. Everyone wants to have peace, to know they're protected, to know that a greater Force is guiding them and enhancing their lives with power. You have these promises. (17)

I will keep and protect My children who love and obey Me, those whose hearts are right with Me and who do not just say, "Lord, Lord," while they do not do the things I ask and their hearts are far from Me. Though My faithful and obedient ones shall see a thousand fall at their side and ten thousand at their right hand, they shall also see My shield of protection hallowing them about that they may walk through the fire and the storm and come out without even the smell of smoke. (18)

I do not allow My children, those who are saved, to be touched by any of the powers of evil or Hell, unless they are continually disobedient to Me, unless they are outside of the charmed circle of My protection. (19)

As you know, the Enemy's battleground is the mind. He attacks primarily in the mind. He knows that if he can get into your mind and influence your thoughts, then your body, countenance, and actions will follow suit. You will then apply the thoughts of your mind, which he has influenced, to your daily life and actions, and he will have won a victory.

As one of My children, you have a measure of protection against the Enemy and his attacks. But you must also do your part to keep your shield up, to resist him, to not give or allow him entrance. You have to walk in the center of My will. You have to obey the conditions I have laid out for you to avail yourself of My full protection. (20)

When you disobey, you are weakening the force field of My protection and I'm unable to protect you like I want to. My hands are tied. I need your obedience in order to be able to give you My protection. When you are disobedient, compromising, dishonest, and covering up for one another, I can't protect you, and you're in fact inviting the Enemy in!⁽²¹⁾

The Devil is out there like a roaring lion, waiting to devour those that step out of the protective circle of My will. He's not a little pussycat; he's a crazed and ferocious beast that's out to kill! So you'd better watch out if you step out of My protection through disobedience to the Word as well as My personal Word of prophecy to you. (22)

It's as simple as an illustration of one child tightly holding on to My hand and the other child loosening her grasp and letting go. Yes, I love the child who loosens her grasp and lets go of My hand, but of course when she's not as close to My side, I can't keep her, hold her, and protect her the same as the child who holds tightly to Me at all times. She who continues following Me, her hand securely in Mine, looking into My eyes in trust and faith--even if her step falters and she knows not where I lead--to her I provide My full blessings, My full protection, My tenderest care. Through this act of faith on her part--her weakness grasping ahold of My strength--shall My power and anointing flow. (23)

It's all about choice. If you want My full protection, you choose that protection through your choices. You choose to obey and do what I ask of you, to fulfill the conditions, so that you are afforded My full protection. If you want to be in My will, you choose to keep yourself within the boundaries I have given you, even when your flesh desires to be elsewhere or your heart yearns for a change. If you want to fulfill the destiny I have for you, then you must make the choices that keep you walking on the right path, or else you will get lost and I will not be able to fulfill the destiny I promised would be yours. It's all about choice. You must choose your outlook on life. You must choose My will and My ways. Nobody else can make those choices for you-not even Me.

You will all begin to feel My hand more personally in your life--both the blessings of obedience and the lifting of My protection when you disobey. It is the era of accountability and obedience, My loves. (25)

What you need to realize is that I have put boundaries of obedience in place, both in the physical and the spiritual realms, for your own good. These are boundaries I ask you not to cross, because I want to keep you safe, to protect you, to help you fulfill My will. It does you no service when you step outside those boundaries thinking you know better. You're putting yourself in danger, whether physically or spiritually, and often you wind up suffering the consequences. Some of you are so dull in the spirit, you don't even see them as consequences. To you it's just the natural course of events, or just a "rough period." But the reality is that you're suffering the consequences of choosing to take yourself outside of the boundaries of My protection.

So when you're thinking and praying and making decisions, or even when you're just living life and not consciously making any big decisions, be mindful of the boundaries I've set. These are not to inhibit your freedom or to squelch your desires or make you less happy. These are boundaries to protect you. And so you need to learn to trust Me for that. When your emotions or desires are leading you outside those boundaries of protection, learn to recognize where that pull is coming from. It's not from Me. Even if it looks perfectly safe to you, that doesn't mean that it is. (26)

It's the day of accountability, and I can't protect you from disobedience, unyieldedness, and disregard of the standard of discipleship that you've chosen. The Devil is trying to "bag the live ones," and if you start wandering off, even if you think it's a harmless little "excursion" which you've gone on before without consequences, the end result may be much different than in the past, because today you are much more accountable for your actions.

You are accountable more than ever to choose this day whom and how you will serve, and not to halt between full discipleship and other places of service. Choose and be counted either as a member of the special forces, a member of the regular army, or a member of the reserves. But whichever division of My army you are in, give it your all! Let Me have full sway and don't for a minute think that you can step outside of My will, because you may be setting yourself up to be the Devil's next meal! Be sober, be vigilant, use the keys, and you will defeat and overcome any attacks of the Wicked One, and you will be safe under My protection. (27)

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- 4. God's in Control! #2084:36
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