



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries
dikaosune.com

The Training of the Disciples

The greatness and majesty of God can be marred and can be eclipsed by rules and regulations. The glory and majesty of God's name can be diminished by cheap substitutes. So as we started our study on the training of the disciples, we asked the question, is it ever right to rebel? We looked at the book of Acts chapter 4, a continuation of church history as the people of God face the opportunity to lift up the glory and greatness and majesty of God in the face of legalistic man-made rules and regulations. The Counsel or the Jewish Supreme Court stated there was no way that Jesus was to be preached in the street. Therefore, the men leave and once again hit the streets and speak of Jesus Christ and God's greatness and glory and majesty is lifted up and the official religious men hate it. So they attempted to stomp it out. However, in verses 14-16 multitudes were constantly added to {their number}; We must obey God rather than Men.

Is it all right to rebel? Of course there are times it is right to rebel. The principle is when a man made command directly contradicts a God given truth, defiance is appropriate.

Acts 5:29, "we must obey God rather than man." He is the authority that His people are to follow.

The defiant Christ?

He was the one who drove the moneychangers out of the Temple with a whip JOH 2:13-19. He was the one who stood nose-to-nose, toe-to-toe, against His accusers and critics and never blinked. This is a very different picture of our Lord. However, you have to take Him as He is in all facets. . John 2:15-18 are the types of passages that show a side of our Lord that most believers do not study enough about, the manifestation of His glory, His authority, His zeal, and His power. What happened in the temple was as much a miracle as the changing of water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana. His word was with power and He is the Son of God. He is the Son of God, supreme in authority and power. Remember this authority and power in JOH 8:9 when the Pharisees brought the woman caught in adultery? Do you recall in JOH 18:6 when they arrested Him in the garden? "When therefore He said to them, "I am He," they drew back, and fell to the ground." Do you see Him like that? Or do you just see someone who said, "Whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also." Or, "If anyone wants to sue you, and take your shirt, let him have your coat also." Or, "Whoever shall force you to go one mile, go with him two." He is not only the Savior, He is the Lord! You cannot divide Him, you must take Him as He is, on His terms not yours. Is It Ever Right to Rebel?

Let me temper this discussion of rebellion and defiance with a little balance. Before you enter into defiance or if you should, consider the following carefully:

1. Analyze the issue. That will take discernment.
2. Watch your motive. Sometimes we defy just to cooperate with somebody else or to carry out his or her wish. This will take honesty. Analyzing the issue will take discernment, but determining or watching your motive will take honesty.

3. Pray for wisdom. JAM 1:5. "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him." When we pray our head gets cleared.

If the apostles hadn't rebelled against the scriptures of the high priests, the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ would have been suppressed and squashed and many decades and maybe even centuries would have been left in darkness. Because they stood against false limits and rebelled against the authorities, their response has become an example to generations of Christians looking for guidance in similar situations. They were defiant, and they rebelled against the authorities. Does it seem sacrilegious to say that Jesus was ever defiant? It certainly flies in the face of our modern images of a pale, meek Jesus. He unflinchingly stood up to powerful rulers, LUK 23:8-12. At the end of His ministry, He went into the temple again and did some shocking things, turning over the tables, chasing people out of the Temple, not allowing anyone to buy or sell in the Temple, Mat 21:12-13; Mar 11:15-17; LUK 19:45-46.