

THE POWER OF AN OBEDIENT LIFE:
The Foundations for Obedience
(1 Kings 17:1)

in Samaria. Ahab also built an Asherah pole and did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him. 1 Kings 16:29-33 (NIV)

I. The Importance of Obedience

A. Jesus' exhortations

1. *"If you love me, you will obey what I command."*
John 14:15 (NIV)
2. *"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me."* John 14:21 (NIV)
3. *"If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching."*
John 14:23 (NIV)
4. *"He who does not love me will not obey my teaching."* John 14:24 (NIV)
5. *"If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love."* John 15:10 (NIV)
6. *"You are my friends if you do what I command."*
John 15:14 (NIV)

B. Elijah's example

Elijah's name means _____.

In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab son of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria over Israel twenty-two years. Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him. He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him. He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built

Now, Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word." 1 Kings 17:1(NIV)

II. The Foundations for Obedience

A. An obedient life is built upon the foundation of a _____ and _____ relationship with God.

"As the Lord, the God of Israel lives, whom I serve . . . 1 Kings 17:1 (NIV)

B. An obedient life is built upon the foundation of a _____ and _____ of the Word of God.

"Be careful or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, and he will shut the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you. Deuteronomy 11:16-17 (NIV)

C. An obedient life is built upon the foundation of the _____ of prayer.

Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. James 5:17 (NIV)