

the judgments which God inflicted upon them, will be found to have arisen from *disobedience as it respects his worship*, which is not so held forth by the teachers of the present day. The disobedience of Moses in striking the rock, instead of speaking to it, as he had done before to bring water, as also the case of Saul and the people as seen in 1 Samuel, xv, keeping the best of the cattle to sacrifice unto God, clearly establish that good motives are no justification to be pleaded. Repentance, and fleeing to the cross is the only refuge for pardon for our disobedience.

In examining the gospel dispensation, I shall commence with the commission of the Lord to the Apostles, as such is the ground of authority for all that they taught. Matt. xxviii, 18, "All power is given unto me in heaven and 'n earth; go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." See also John xiv, 21, 23; xv, 10; 1 John ii, 3, 4, 5; 2 John 6; 1 Cor. vii, 19. Blessings of obedience, see Acts v, 29, 32; Rom. vi, 17; Phil. i, 2; 1 Pet. i, 22; Heb. v, 9; Luke iii, 20, 21; xi, 27, 28. The consequences of disobedience I shall set forth; but I proceed to show in what way the first converts obeyed, and how they were directed by the Apostles. This we find in the Acts or actions of Apostles, after they were endued with power from on high. We have this set forth in the ii of Acts, 14th to 37th verse; and we find at the 41st verse, "they that gladly received the word were baptized." "And they continued steadfast in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers."

Here we see the effect of the Holy Spirit, and that then as now, some reject the obedience the word enjoins. I ask in the fear of the Lord, by whom among professing disciples is this example followed, in strict conformity as set forth? I ask, do those called Baptists act thus? Where is their authority for delay to baptize those who profess to believe? Did Peter and John subject to Quarantine those professing to believe? In the breaking of bread, instead of shewing it forth, or attending to it "on the first day of the week," when it is observed it is generally placed in the back ground when the auditory are gone away. Surely this is not shewing forth the death of Christ as their hope. Many are zealous as to regarding to the Lord's day (for which there is no divine command,) yet the last command of Christ as to remembering his death, is omitted, which forms the ground of all our worship, whether prayer or praise, and was stately observed on every first day of the week by the first churches. Such is now by most professors attended to according to their feelings, and not stately, as practised at first. And so with regard to the fellowship and the reading of the scriptures—no prayers for God's blessing on the fellowship, or for liberality in giving as God has blessed us.

The Saviour sanctioned the reading of the law and the prophets, while to these we have the New Testament. These all being read in regular order by the church, with prayer for the aid of the Holy Spirit,