Children Of Disobedience
Eph. 5:1-7

Introduction:
A. Children of disobedience disobey God.
   1. “Children” or “Sons” often means followers. (cf. v.1, John 8:44)
   2. “Disobedience” is to ignore, reject or rebel against authority.
B. Children of disobedience become such by any one of four ways:

Discussion:
I. By Disregarding The Assignments of God.
   A. Received in three ways:
      1. By direct command. (cf. “This do…”–1 Cor. 11:25).
      2. By approved examples (Phil. 3:17; Acts 20:7).
      3. By necessary inference. (cf. Mt. 22:32; Heb. 8:8,13; Gal. 3:16; “every first day”).
   B. Sometimes rejected (Jonah, Jas. 4:17).
   C. More often neglected (Judges 5:23; Heb. 2:3).
II. By Disregarding The Restrictions of God.
   A. Clearly expressed. (cf. Gen. 3:3; Eph. 5:18; Mk. 10:9).
   B. General principles.
      1. Need for positive Divine authority in religion. (Lev. 10:1; Matt. 15:8-9, 13,14; 2 John 9-11).
      3. Generic and specific authority.
      4. Parallel linkage. (Gal. 5:21 “and the like”)
III. By Disregarding The Options of God.
   A. God neither commands nor forbids certain things. (Rom. 14:3-4,14,22; 1 Cor. 8:8,9).
   B. God neither commands nor forbids marriage.
      1. We have no right to forbid it nor demand it.
      2. Once one opts to marry he must follow God's laws in it.
IV. By Disregarding The Order of God.
   A. Lawbreakers must be punished, but by whom? (Rom. 12:17-19; 13:1-4).
   B. Christians must eat common meals but where? (1 Cor. 11:22,34).
   C. All deserving needy should be cared for, but by whom? (1 Tim. 5:16).
   D. We must provide food, clothing and shelter, but what comes first. (Matt. 6:33)
   E. Women should teach (Tit. 2:4), but under what circumstance? (1 Tim. 2:12; 1 Cor. 14:35).
   F. May do many morally right things, but not religiously. (Mt. 15:1-9).

Conclusion:
A. Are we obeying God in his assignments, restrictions, options, and order?
B. Are we children of disobedience or obedience?
C. Why not begin obedience by obeying first principles now?