

# Deuteronomy 15:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.

## Analysis

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**Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day.** The promise of comprehensive blessing is conditional - only if Israel carefully obeys God's commands. Prosperity flows from faithfulness; poverty results from disobedience.

The emphasis carefully hearken demands attentive listening with intent to obey. Mere hearing is insufficient; active obedience to God's voice is required. This connects hearing and doing, faith and works - genuine faith manifests in obedient action.

The phrase all these commandments prohibits selective obedience. Israel could not choose to observe Sabbath while ignoring sabbatical release, or honor ceremonial laws while neglecting social justice. God demands comprehensive obedience to the entire covenant package.

This principle pervades Scripture - blessing follows obedience (Deuteronomy 28). While salvation comes by grace through faith, not by works, sanctification and temporal blessing have organic connection to obedience. God's moral order links righteousness and flourishing.

## Historical Context

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Israel's history demonstrated this principle repeatedly. Periods of covenant faithfulness brought blessing; apostasy and disobedience brought judgment. The Deuteronomic history (Joshua through Kings) chronicles this pattern.

The prophets condemned Israel's selective obedience - maintaining ritual worship while oppressing the poor. God demanded comprehensive righteousness encompassing both ceremonial and social dimensions.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. What is the relationship between obedience and blessing in God's covenant?
2. How does careful hearing differ from mere listening?
3. Why does God require comprehensive obedience rather than selective compliance with preferred commands?
4. How do we reconcile salvation by grace with the principle that obedience brings blessing?
5. What does Israel's history teach about the consequences of partial or selective obedience?

## Interlinear Text

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אִם בָּקָל	וְתִשְׁמַע ע	וְתִשְׁמַע ע	בְּקוֹל
H7535	H518		
Only if thou carefully		Only if thou carefully	unto the voice
H8085		H8085	H6963

יְהוָה ה	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	לִשְׁמֹר	לַעֲשׂוֹת	אֵת	כָּל
				H853	H3605
of the LORD	thy God	to observe	to do		
H3068	H430	H8104	H6213		

הַמִּצְוֹת ה	הַזֶּאת	אֲשֶׁר	אֶנִּי	מִצְוֶה
	H2063	H834	H595	
all these commandments				which I command
H4687				H6680

הַיּוֹם:

thee this day

H3117