Vol 1, Day 13 — MY OBEDIENCE TO GOD WILL COST OTHER PEOPLE

"They laid hold upon one Simon . . . and on him they laid the cross." Luke 23:2

If we obey God it is going to cost other people more than it costs us, and that is where the sting comes in. If we are in love with our Lord, obedience does not cost us anything, it is a delight, but it costs those who do not love Him a great deal. If we obey God it will mean that other people's plans are upset, and they will say to us, "You call this Christianity?" We can prevent the suffering; but if we desire to obey God, we must placate other people. We must let them pay the cost of our devotion to God.

Our human pride hinges on this point, and we say, "I will never accept anything from anyone or inconvenience them." We must let it happen or disobey God. We have no right to expect to be in any other relation than our Lord Himself was in. He was 4 days late, but just on time.

Stagnation in spiritual life comes when we say we will bear the whole thing ourselves. We cannot. When we are so involved in the universal purposes of God that we immediately obey God, some others are negatively affected. Are we going to remain loyal to God and go through the humiliation of refusing to consider others, or are we going to do the opposite and say, "I will not cost other people to suffer?" We can choose to disobey God and it will bring immediate relief to the situation, but we will grieve our Lord. But, if we obey God, He will look after those who have been pressed into the consequences of our obedience. Ours is simply to obey God and to leave all consequences with Him.

Beware of the inclination to tell God what you will **not** allow to happen to others when you obey Him.

My Utmost for His Highest - Oswald Chambers