

## *Obedience vs. Obeisance*

A cause is fostered  
by obedience,  
but hampered  
by obeisance..

Obedience is passionate  
for what is right;  
obeisance settles  
for ritual.

Obedience listens and learns;  
obeisance bows and scrapes.  
Obedience meditates and anticipates;  
obeisance complies and simulates.  
Obedience studies and examines;  
obeisance conforms and repeats.

Obedience raises questions;  
obeisance rehearses answers.  
Obedience prizes honesty;  
obeisance seeks honors.  
Obedience pays heed;  
obeisance gives homage.

Obedience cooperates  
when it accomplishes.  
Obeisance flatters  
as it fawns.

God and people  
deserve our authentic  
obedience,  
not our superficial  
obeisance.

Obedience discerns;  
obeisance is uncritical.  
Obedience converses;  
obeisance is unilateral.  
Obedience serves;  
obeisance is obsequious.

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Obedience speaks  
to my freedom.  
Obeisance carries  
the other's favor.

Obedience is difficult  
and costly;  
obeisance is easy  
and profitable.  
Obedience grapples  
and cares;  
obeisance grovels  
and caters.  
Obedience is open  
and docile;  
obeisance is stunted  
and blind.