

## *Walking In His Statutes*

*“And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them” (Ezek. 36:27).*

Because he was my dad, I would never project my father in an unbecoming way. But neither would I justify all his statements and actions during my upbringing. He was not always right and did not always do what was right. However, he did have an unpublished set of laws and he was going to see to it that I lived according to those laws. After whipping me or reprimanding me, he must have told me a thousand times, “That’s the way it’s going to be.”

The word translated “statutes” in the above text means “that which is established and definite.” The reference, of course, is to the defined limits of God’s laws or ordinances, laws that are clearly published in the Scriptures and given for the direction of our lives. When our heavenly Father says that we are to walk in His “statutes,” therefore, it might be understood that He is saying, “That’s the way it’s going to be.”

The statutes of God and our responsibility to keep them are mentioned many times in the Old Testament. But the first time the subject of walking in His statutes is mentioned is when Solomon dedicated the temple. At that time he said to the people, “Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes, and to keep His commandments” (1 Kings 8:61). Now, however, it is not Solomon but the Lord Himself Who addresses this subject.

*To walk in God’s statutes, we must be detached from man’s statutes!* To walk in God’s defined limits, we must walk outside of man’s defined limits. Describing the Israelites’ actions in the wilderness, the Lord earlier explained in this prophecy that “they . . . walked not in My statutes” (Ezek. 20:16). In further instructing their children, He commanded, “Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers” (20:18). All statutes that are not of God must be forsaken.

*To walk in God’s statutes, we must be dominated by God’s Spirit!* In 1 Kings 8 we read that Solomon exhorted the people to walk in His statutes. But in our present text, we learn how this is possible. The Lord said, “I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes.” The only hope for us to walk in His statutes is through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. He not only sets us free from the statutes of man but energizes us to walk by divine instructions.

*To walk in God’s statutes, we must be devoted in our submission!* Although this has been mentioned in earlier studies, the matter of our submission and obedience to God’s laws emerges again. Whether we are walking with God, walking before God, walking after God, walking in His ways, walking uprightly, walking in the fear of God, walking through the valley, walking in the midst of trouble, or walking in His statutes, we must be entirely submissive to Him.