



“Servants as Unto Christ, The Masters the Same”

Ephesians 6:5-9

1 Corinthians 7:21-24

I. Slaves are to obey those who are their masters

_____ to the flesh (6:5).

- a. The accompanying sentiment towards a master is that of “fear and _____” typical of earthly slave-master relationships (6:5).

1 Corinthians 2:3; 2 Corinthians 7:14-16; Philippians 2:12

- b. For the Christian slave there is openness and _____ as the object of service is Christ (6:5b-7).
- c. The motivation for both slaves and freemen doing their labor with sincerity rests on the fact that God _____ faithful labor (6:8).

Colossians 3:23-24

II. Question: How are masters to treat their slaves?

- a. Answer: With _____ (6:9a).

Job 31:13-15

- b. Rough threatening by masters is both _____ and _____ with eternal warnings (6:9b).

1 Peter 2:18-25

Questions for Tonight:

1. In instructions to children, Paul noted that the fifth commandment (honor your father and mother) was the first with promise. Why does he mention this to predominantly Gentile readers? Is it merely a factoid? Is it merely proverbial (life goes well when you honor parents)? Is it national (A country runs well when children honor parents)? Or is it a reflection (not a template) of God’s active blessing in the life of the honoring son or daughter?
 - Related to this, how does and did this blessing apply now and then? Were childhood mortality rates vastly different for Israel than the rest of the ancient world? Was there a perfectly positive correlation between honor and the number of years a man lived his life? Or would such a notion be more similar to Job’s friends’ wisdom, which was deconstructed in the first half of the book of Job only to be reconstructed in the second half of Job with answers that did not fully answer man’s query (such as, “where were you when I formed the world?”).
2. What was the Bible’s approach to ancient slavery in its many forms? How do the following passages interact with today’s passage to inform us of a biblical view of slavery (1 Corinthians 7:21-24, Philemon)?
3. Let’s list a number of specific ways obedient children glorify God in the home, fathers can disciple children in the home, an employee can honor God at work, and employers/managers can honor God at work.
4. Are there any comments on the article forwarded to the church regarding wine as an effective purification agent when mixed 1 part to 8 parts with water (British Journal of Medicine, 1995)?