

“We Are Unworthy Servants”

Exposing The Lurking Notion That Our Service Has Merit

Luke 17:7-10

It seems we have an inbred intuition that we can save (or at least help) ourselves in our sin predicament. It is only the Good News of God’s sovereign grace that enables us to rest contentedly in the finished work of Christ and the Creator-creature relationship that is reality. Let us today embrace our identity as ‘unworthy slaves’ of Jesus Christ, as did Paul (Ro. 1:1), Peter (2 Pe. 1:1), and John (Re. 1:1), and James (Ja. 1:1). He is our Lord, and in him we can safely admit that we have no merit on which to recline. Rather we can serve diligently and humbly, giving all glory to the Lord!

I. Your _____ ‘outside’ does not entitle you to _____ ‘inside’! (v 7)

1. Understand that Roman _____ made up 35% of Italy’s population.
2. On smaller plantations expectations were _____.

II. Your status in Christ is like that of a _____ to a _____! (v 8)

1. The servant in his tasks never _____ rights. He is _____.
2. Jesus is not _____ slavery but illustrating _____ grace.
3. Do not shrink back from ascribing full _____ to Christ the Lord!

III. Your _____ does not _____ you rights to God’s _____! (v 9)

1. There was no _____ due to a slave for his efforts. He is _____.
2. Salvation comes by the _____ of _____ (Jn. 1:12; Eph. 2:8).

IV. You ought to embrace your _____ as an _____ servant! (v 10)

1. Believe in your head and _____ in your _____ that “God saves sinners.”
2. Imitate the noble example of the _____ confessors and _____.
3. Review your _____ vow of membership: “_____ myself to his service, _____ to forsake all sin, conform my life to his teaching and example.”
4. Relinquish “_____” as a category you consider before Christ (Jn. 13:13).
5. Rest _____ on God grace as “unworthy servants” doing “what was our duty.”