

- Introduction:**
1. The Apostle Paul is giving, not simply good advice, but Gospel instruction and exhortation to those who find themselves providentially as slaves...
 2. There are two important things for us to always remember...
 - ** The Bible is God's Word...
 - ** We are called, regardless our circumstances to "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling."

I. What It Means to be Under the Yoke...

A. Bondage, having a burden to carry...

B. Some Relevant Observations About the Issue of Slavery and the Bible...

1. Slavery was part and parcel of the Greek and Roman culture...
2. It is in the world as a result of sin...
3. The Bible does not defend slavery but recognizes its existence and even addresses Christian slaves...
Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:22—4: 1; I Timothy 6:1-2; Titus 2:9-10; I Peter 2:18-21 and the special case in Philemon...
4. There were fair and cruel slave owners...
5. Biblical principles for us to consider... *I Timothy 1:10; I Corinthians 7:21*

C. We can be very Thankful for the Influenced of the Gospel...

D. Slavery is Still Thriving in the World Today...

E. Spiritual Slavery of all men and women... *Romans 6:17*

Observation: The Gospel changes things... i.e. *Romans 6:22. We are not our own... I Corinthians 6:19-20; 7:23*

II. Exhortation to Slaves with Unbelieving Masters...

A. Paul is concerned about the heart...

B. "Regard your own masters worthy of all honor..."

1. A very Difficult thing to do at times, but according to God's will, *I Peter 2:18-29*
2. Masters are not personally nor morally worthy...
3. The word "Regard" is a reference to the activity of faith... *Hebrews 11:11, 26 cf. Romans 8:14*

C. This Exhortation has a Missionary or Evangelical Perspective...

1. The unbelieving world is always watching... *Matthew 5:13-16*
2. Be very careful not to do anything that would discredit the Gospel... *I Peter 2:18-20*

III. Exhortation to Slaves with Christian Masters...

A. Don't be Disrespectful taking for granted you relationship in Christ...

B. Serve them all the better...

Application: