

A SLAVE FOR CHRIST (Romans 6:15-18)

I. Somebody is over you.

- A. Some think about this and say, "I'm a 2nd class citizen, I have to answer to someone."
 - 1. That's right - Ephesians 4:6.
 - 2. You and I will never be God.
 - 3. He is, and always will be, over us
 - 4. Ephesians 1:22-23 - if we are in the church, Jesus is over us.
- B. There are different expressions for being a Christian, but slave is one we don't like to think about, probably due to our nation's history.
 - 1. Notice Philemon 16.
 - 2. He was a servant but now a brother - that is what we get to be in Christ with one another.
 - 3. But Philemon was just as much a servant as Onesimus.
- C. To say Christ is to say King (Acts 17:3 & 7).
 - 1. In our government, our founding fathers wanted nothing to do with a king.
 - 2. They set up a system that has checks and balances.
 - 3. There is no such system with Christ.
- D. To say Lord is to say ruler (Colossians 3:17).
 - 1. Jesus has absolute authority.
 - 2. It is God-given (Matthew 28:18).
- E. Someone may say, "I don't like anyone over me."
 - 1. You need to grow up.
 - 2. Someone is always over you.

II. Someone owns you.

- A. There were two ways to become a slave.
 - 1. Foreign powers conquer your land - you become a slave.
 - 2. You get so in debt you have to sell yourself.
 - a. This is what happened in Egypt.
 - b. The Egyptians were so hungry they willingly sold themselves to Pharaoh.
- B. Romans 7:14 - Paul basically says that he became a slave of Christ because he had sold his soul to Satan.
 - 1. Sin revived and he died.
 - 2. Sin will become our master (John 8:32-33).
 - a. When they said this they were Rome's servants.
 - b. Notice verse 34.
- C. Do you have a knowledge of sin or a personal knowledge of sin (Romans 3:23)?
- D. There is a difference like knowing God and knowing about God.
- E. We sell our souls to whatever sin it is in which we engage.
 - 1. You ever seen a drunk caress his bottle like a baby?
 - 2. You ever hear a person curse non- stop?

3. Each of these people have sold their soul to their sin of choice.
- F. Christ can free you from these things (Romans 3:23-24).
 1. The word redemption means a price paid to free you from a master.
 2. You are now in debt to a new master.
 3. You and I will always be in debt.
- G. We better never get the idea that we've done enough to pay back Jesus for what He was done for us.
- H. We are slave and should love every second of it because Jesus is a different type master (Matthew 11:28-30).
 1. You have a yoke either way.
 2. We should choose the light, easy yoke.
- I. We are a slave either way we go (Romans 6:16).
- J. Thankfully Jesus is over us and owns us if we are Christians (1 Corinthians 6:20).

III. **As a slave, I am obligated to obey that someone.**

- A. We are to obey Jesus.
 1. Can you imagine sitting down with Jesus and saying, "Let's talk about my life" ?
 2. "Here's some things I think about it, why don't you go over them and see what you think?"
 3. We have to learn that Jesus is our Master and we are obligated to obey Him.
- B. Notice Matthew 8:8-9 - I tell this servant to do and he does.
- C. Not many of us like to be told what to do, do we?
 1. We better get used to it.
 2. Otherwise, we are going to have a miserable life.
- D. Philippians 2:4-6 - a slave obeys and Jesus took on the form of one and became obedient, even unto the death of the cross.
 1. Because of that, one day every knee will bow to Him.
 2. We will do so whether we like it or not.
- E. Jesus modeled obedience for us (Hebrews 5:8-9).
 1. We learn it like Jesus - through suffering.
 2. We all come out of our mothers kicking and screaming, wanting attention.
 3. We all still want attention and to get our way.
 - a. I want my parking spot;
 - b. I want my pew spot;
 - c. I want my thermostat setting.
- F. Obedience is not easy - we've got to suffer to learn it.
 1. This is true in life and in Christ.
 2. Jesus had to say, "Not my will but thine be done."
 3. We are no better than Jesus.

From a sermon by Jimmy Clark.