



## The Bondservant and His Master

### Ephesians 6:5-9

#### The Bondservant and the Master

**“Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. **And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven**, and there is no partiality with Him.”**

Ephesians 6:5-9 NKJV

**Let’s Set the Stage!—Close your eyes; quiet you mind; sit quietly and listen; grasp the magnitude!**

## **For this is the will of God!**

“Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man **for the Lord’s sake**, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. **For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—****as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.** Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? **But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.** For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example**, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going

astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." 1 Peter 2:13-25 NKJV

## Introduction

- ☑ Understanding bondservants; service with sincerity.
- ☑ Take a look at what it looks like in the natural when it is done right and you will get a picture of the deeper prophetic meaning.
- ☑ Bondservants of Christ
  - ☑ How He did it, we should so it!
  - ☑ "Doing the will of God from the heart" (see the Garden Scene!)
- ☑ Do as to the Lord, and not to men!
  - ☑ **Whatever you do so as unto the Lord!** *"Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men," Colossians 3:22-23 NKJV*
- ☑ Whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord.
  - ☑ **Sowing and reaping!** *"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but*

*he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.” Galatians 6:7-8 NKJV*

- ☑ **Do not grow weary in doing good!** *“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.” Galatians 6:9-10 NKJV*
- ☑ By the way—the Master you are emulating has a Master and and look at His actions!
- ☑ He gave up His own son!
  - ☑ *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 NKJV*
- ☑ He became a man Just so He could humble Himself!
  - ☑ *“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV*

FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM

## Imagine the Scene-The Ultimate Servant

**Fix Your Eyes on Y'shua:** "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. **For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross**, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:1-3

- ☑ What was the Joy Set Before Him at the Table?
  - ☑ HE WASHED THEIR FEET! "Now before the Feast of the Passover, **when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.** And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. **After that, He poured water into a basin and**

**began to wash the disciples' feet**, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" **John 13:1-6 NKJV**

☑ NOT ONLY THE TWELVE "My prayer is **not for them alone**. I pray also **for [ALL] those who will believe in me through their message**," John 17:20 NIVUK

☑ **Luke's Gospel records these words—"I bestow upon you a kingdom":** "Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' But not so among you; on the contrary, **he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves**. For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? **Yet I am among you as the One who serves**. "But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. **And I bestow upon you a kingdom**, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel." **Luke 22:24-30 NKJV**

## Y'SHUA'S UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT A SERVANT IS

### **The Law of the The Hebrew Servant**

**It's all about the ultimate choice—whom will you serve?** ““Now these are the judgments which you shall set before them: If you buy a **Hebrew servant**, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh he shall go out free and pay nothing. If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. **If his master has given him a wife**, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. **But if the servant plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,'** then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall **pierce** his ear with an awl; and **he shall serve him forever.**” Exodus 21:1-6 NKJV

- ☑ A Hebrew servant is in bondage for six years and is then permitted to go out for free without cost in the seventh year.

#### **But there are some important stipulations:**

- ☑ If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself;
- ☑ If he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him;

- ☑ If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, **and he shall go out by himself;**
- ☑ But if the servant loves his master, wife, and children, he can chose to stay a servant [**and keep his wife and children**];
- ☑ If the slave makes a decision to stay, **it is a permanent** and it is witnessed by the judges and consummated with a piercing.
- ☑ **What and who does this sound like?**
  - ☑ A hebrew servant has the option to go free, but he chooses instead to stay, so he can keep the bride he was given while in slavery!
  - ☑ Because he has chosen to stay, his master shall bring him to the judges. Then he shall bring him for a piercing and he shall serve his master forever.
  - ☑ The servant can volunteer to be a slave forever because he loves his Master and his bride! A slave who chooses to stay even when he could go Free gets pierced and is called a BONDservant

### Messiah as a Bondservant

Jesus went from freedom to slavery, from Spirit to human form. Will He ever return to spirit form? Only if He chooses that path. But the consequence would be He would have to leave without His Wife.



- “And the **Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14 NKJV
- Let this mind of Christ be in you... be a bondservant; volunteer to give your life FOREVER, never again able to go “FREE”!
- “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **who, being in the form of God [\*God is Spirit], did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men [\*\*Body]. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.** Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:5-11 NKJV
- \*”But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **God is**

**Spirit**, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”” John 4:23-24 NKJ

- ☑ \*\*“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed **to His glorious body**, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”  
Philippians 3:20-21 NKJV

## THE ULTIMATE CHOICE

**Go Free or Stay? Y’shua’s final choice—a slave forever and keep His bride or His FREEDOM?**

**Gethsemane (the moment of truth—bondservant and piercing or freedom?**

“And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “**Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless \*not My will, but Yours, be done.**”” Luke 22:41-42 NKJV [*he shall serve him forever.*” Exodus 21:6]

*\*Remember: “not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, **doing the will of God from the heart,**”*

*Ephesians 6:6 NKJV*

- ☑ He could go free and lose His bride [take this cup from me], or remain captive, be pierced, and KEEP HIS BRIDE FOREVER! The one given to Him during His Slavery! [not my will but yours be done]
- ☑ **Never a spirit being again!** “Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, “Peace to you.” But they were terrified and frightened, **and supposed they had seen a spirit.** And He said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, **for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.**” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. **And He took it and ate** in their presence.” Luke 24:36-43 NKJV
- ☑ **He went up with that body and he is coming back with that body!**
- ☑ “Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven

as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? **This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”” Acts 1:9-11 NKJV**

☑ “So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a **spiritual body**. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being.” The last Adam became a **life-giving spirit**. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, **we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.**” I Corinthians 15:42-49 NKJV

☑ WHY????? So we can be like Him (with a body like His) and with Him, as His bride!

☑ “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God

and **joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be **glorified together**. Romans 8:16-17

- ☑ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be **conformed to the image** of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these **He also glorified.**” Romans 8:29-30 NKJV

## Who is His Bride?

### **Betrothed**

“For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. **For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**” II Corinthians 11:2 NKJV

### **The Church is the Bride of Christ**

“**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her**, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own

wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. **“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**”  
Ephesians 5:25-32 NKJV

**The Church (His people)—Prepared as His bride:** Had he chosen to be “freed” from the Cross this would never be!

“Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the **marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**” And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.” Revelation 19:7-8 NKJV

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**” Revelation 21:1-2 NKJV

- ☑ We are betrothed (promised) to be the bride of Christ and we are making ourselves ready!

SO WHAT WAS ACTUALLY Y'SHUA'S ULTIMATE SACRIFICE?

**Y'shua's choice to become a bondservant, to go to the cross (be pierced) was not just a choice to suffer and to sacrifice His life.**

**Yes, He chose his bride over His freedom! But the ultimate sacrifice** is that He can never go back His former Spirit-Self (freedom). He will forever inherit a glorified body, the same body we inherit, so we can be His permanent bride!

**His church [bride] is then called to do the same—to make the choice to become bondservants? (Voluntary slaves)**

**Want to be great?**

“Not so with you. Instead, **whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave** – just as the Son of Man **did not come to be served, but to serve**, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matt. 20:26-28

Peter, Paul, Timothy, James and Jude all identified themselves as voluntary slaves—bondservants

- ☑ Pauls says, “**Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.**” I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
- ☑ **Peter**—“**Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ,** To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:” II Peter 1:1 NKJV
- ☑ “For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men— as **free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.**” I Peter 2:15-16 NKJV
- ☑ Paul—“**Paul, a bondservant** of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God” Romans 1:1 NKJV
- ☑ Timothy—“**Paul and Timothy, bondservants** of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:” Philippians 1:1 NKJV
- ☑ James— “**James, a bondservant** of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.” James 1:1 NKJV



- ☑ Jude—“**Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ**, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ:” Jude 1:1 NKJV

LET’S GO BACK TO THE TABLE WHERE WE STARTED (JEFF READ THIS SECTION)

**What did Y’shua see as He sat at the table for His Last Supper?**

**A. He knew his time had come (John 13) — READ John 13-17**

- (1) Can you imagine that scene again? (The Last Supper)
  - (a) For the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, Hebrews 12:1-2
  - (b) For the joy set before Him—what or who was His Joy?
  - (c) He was about to choose His bride over His freedom
  - (d) NOT ONLY THE TWELVE ““My prayer is **not for them alone**. I pray also **for [ALL] those who will believe in me through their message,**” John 17:20 NIVUK
- (2) WHY would He endure the cross? Let’s go back to the foot washing scene in John 13...
  - (a) “**When he had finished washing their feet**, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. ‘**Do you understand what I have done for you?**’ he asked them. ‘You call me “Teacher” and “Lord”, and rightly so, for that is what I am. **Now that I, your Lord and Teacher,**

**have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.** Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, **you will be blessed if you do them.**" John 13:12-17

- (3) Do you know what I have done! I have set an example! I am about to choose My bride over My freedom. Now you do the same!
- (a) The True Serving Leader—do what He has done for you!
  - (b) **No greater love:** "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." John 15:13 NKJV
  - (c) **"The greatest among you will be your servant.** For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Matt. 23:11-12
  - (d) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, **in humility value others above yourselves...**Philippians 2:3
  - (e) **"Above all, love each other deeply,** because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of **you should use whatever**

**gift you have received to serve others**, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:8-10 NIVUK

**B. Here’s how you do it!**

- (1) Become Bondservants like Jesus [unto death]!
  - (a) GIVE YOUR LIFE! For even the Son of Man did not come **to be served, but to serve**, and to **give his life** as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45
  - (b) CARRY YOUR CROSS—BE A DISCIPLE! “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. And **whoever does not carry their cross** and follow me **cannot be my disciple**. Luke 14:26-27
  - (c) LAY IT DOWN ALL! **“Greater love has no-one than this: to lay down one’s life** for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.” John 15:13-15 NIVUK
  - (d) **LAY DOWN THIS LIFE AND FOLLOW HIM!** **“Anyone who loves their life will lose it**, while anyone who hates

their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

**Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”** John 12:25-26 NIVUK

- (e) CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST—I NO LONGER LIVE! **I have been crucified with Christ [in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ (the Messiah) lives in me;** and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me. Galatians 2:20
- (f) CRUCIFIED AND BURIED WITH HIM! “Or don’t you know that **all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?** We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. **For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.** For we know that **our old self was crucified with him** so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin –

because **anyone who has died has been set free from sin.**" Romans 6:3-7 NIVUK

(2) Do you see the common denominator?

- (a) DIE TO SELF!
- (b) As a bondservant (serving leader), choose others over your own freedom and be willing to die for each other!

(3) Let's go back a visit the Hebrew servant

- (a) **"But if the servant plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,'** then his master shall bring him to the judges. He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall **pierce** his ear with an awl; and **he shall serve him forever.**" Exodus 21:1-6 NKJV

- (b) "Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to **present her to himself as a radiant church,** without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. Ephesians 5:25-32 NIVUK

- (c) **For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross,** Hebrews 12:1-3

- (d) **Benediction for all!** "Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all

honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed." I Timothy 6:1 NKJV

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**The Servant's Way**

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