



KINGDOM EMBASSY MINISTRIES

Remembering our Roots. Restoring Authority. Maturing Disciples. Advancing the Kingdom.

Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 6:15-23
- John 8:31-36

Title:

SLAVERY

- Two Masters
- Three Slaves

SEED:

"Do you not know that **to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves** whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? {22} But now having been **set free from sin**, and having become **slaves of God**, you have your fruit to **holiness**, and the end, **everlasting life**." Romans 6:16, 22 NKJV

FRUIT:

"Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin**. And a **slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever**. Therefore **if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed**." John 8:34-36 NKJV

"Stand fast therefore **in the liberty by which Christ has made us free**, and do not be entangled again with a **yoke of bondage**."

Galatians 5:1 NKJV

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Slavery undoubtedly has a dark aura surrounding it, and it appears instantly, the moment you are asked to consider it. Check your gut right now—did the word itself make you feel warm inside? Not likely! Does it paint a pretty picture on the canvas of your mind? Of course not; it's ugly! In your brain were pictures of chains, and whips, and bars, and oppressive hard labor. You are certainly drawn to envision the modern sex-slave market that has permeated the globe. You are staring into countless hopeless empty eyes as if death is looking back at you. The victims you imagine are hungry, frail, sick, oppressed, and seem as if they are being digested from the inside. They are disposable beings who appear to have died already, forced to wait impatiently for their beating hearts to catch up to what already occurred in their souls long ago. You have an abundance of these images from world history and current events floating around in your conscience. These historic and present instances of slavery are evil and oppressive. These brands of bondage are frightening, disturbing, and disgusting; they epitomize the exact opposite of what you believe is freedom.

But what if, for a moment, we redefine freedom. Let's say freedom is having no options. True freedom is when God is the only choice. Then slavery includes all people living in such a way in which they

feel at liberty to make choices on their own, contrary to the will of God. Now slavery is extremely far reaching; it envelopes a much more diverse population; it gathers to itself everyday people living life in an ordinary way in an ordinary world, subjects of a kingdom which breeds confusion, as options abound. Two types of slavery emerge, one in physical chains, the other in bondage to their own sinful desires.

But wait; there's more! A third type of slave is one who has been brought into bondage to the Lord, a bondservant of God. Slavery under these conditions is anything but oppressive. Rather than chains and confusion, it offers life-giving clarity. The Holy Scriptures enlighten us with this additional perspective on slavery. Sure it is slavery nonetheless, but this is a choice about the type of slavery. And if we circle back to understanding true freedom, then you should not see this as a choice at all! There exists a type of slavery to disobedience, lawlessness, uncleanness and death—a slave of sin. And, there is a form of slavery that embodies obedience, righteousness, holiness and life—a bondservant of God. It's time to draw a mandatory line in the sand—choose your form of slavery. And if you are truly free you will see only one option. "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves?"

TWO MASTERS

1. You Can't Serve Two Masters

A. A Love-Hate Relationship

(1) Law and Grace

(a) Under Law

1. "For sin shall not have dominion over you, for **you are not under law but under grace.**
{15} What then? **Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace?** Certainly not!" Romans 6:14-15 NKJV

(2) Voluntary Slavery

(a) Who is Your Master? To whom do you bow?

1. "Do you not know that **to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves** whom you obey, whether of **sin leading to death**, or of **obedience leading to righteousness?**" Romans 6:16 NKJV
2. The will of God:
 - a) **Instructed out of the law:** "Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God, and **know His will**, and approve the things that are excellent, **being instructed out of the law,**" Romans 2:17-18 NKJV
 - b) **A renewed mind not conformed to the world:** "And **do not be conformed to this world**, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and **perfect will of God.**" Romans 12:2 NKJV
 - c) **Pray according to His will, not your own:** "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, **that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.** And if we know

that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." I John 5:14-15 NKJV

- d) **Never doubt you will hear His voice:** *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."* John 10:27 NKJV
- e) **Who can direct, instruct, and demonstrate like the Lord?** *"Who has **directed the Spirit of the Lord**, Or as His counselor has **taught Him**? With whom did He take counsel, and who **instructed Him**, And **taught Him in the path of justice**? Who **taught Him knowledge**, And **showed Him the way of understanding**?"* Isaiah 40:13-14 NKJV
 - 1) **We can! We have the mind of Christ:** *"For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" [Isaiah 40:13] **But we have the mind of Christ.**"* I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV
- f) **Delight in, Commit to and trust the Lord:** *"**Delight yourself** also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. **Commit your way** to the Lord, **Trust also** in Him, And He shall bring it to pass."* Psalms 37:4-5 NKJV
- g) **Seek God with everything you have and think in Bible:** *"**With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!** Your word **I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.**"* Psalms 119:10-11 NKJV
- h) **Be holy: flee from sexual immorality; be the master of your own body; don't live like a Gentile:** *"For **this is the will of God, your sanctification:** that you should **abstain from sexual immorality**; that each of you should **know how to possess his own vessel** in sanctification and honor, **not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles** who do not know God;"* I Thessalonians 4:3-5 NKJV
- i) **Choose God's will over your own!** *"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless **not My will, but Yours, be done.**"* Luke 22:42 NKJV

(3) Your Time and God's Will

- (a) *"...to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves..."* Romans 6:16

1. Apply: True freedom is when God is the only choice.

- a) Redeem the Time: Slavery includes bondage to all activities, which are contrary to the will of God, that have an involuntary grip on you.

- 1) **Live carefully; don't waste time and energy:** *"See then that you **walk circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise, **redeeming the time**, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is **dissipation**; but **be filled with the Spirit**,"* Ephesians 5:15-18 NKJV

- 2) **Others are watching and listening; don't waste time or words:** *"Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."* Colossians 4:5-6 NKJV
 - 3) **Others are listening; use your words to impart grace:** *"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers."* Ephesians 4:29 NKJV
- (b) Paul introduced himself as a bondservant.
1. A **Hebrew Bondservant** is a slave who has earned the right to go free, but volunteers to stay in service of his master forever.
 - a) Where does identifying as a bondservant originate?
 - 1) *"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 21:2-6 NKJV
 - b) When did Y'shua **become a bondservant**?
 - 1) **He became a bondservant when left behind His form of God and came as a man:** *"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
 - c) And we are **His bride**!
 - 1) **Y'shua received His bride by becoming man:** *"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."* (Ephesians 5:25-27) *"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 5:31-32 NKJV (See: [Wedding Day](#))

2. When did Y’shua make is **final binding permanent decision to stay?**
 - a) *“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.”** Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And **being in agony, He prayed more earnestly.** Then His **sweat became like great drops of blood** falling down to the ground.”* Luke 22:41-44 NKJV
 - b) In the midst of His betrayal, He affirmed His decision, even though it was clear He had the ability to leave! He went to the cross and stayed on the cross to his death.
 - 1) **He chose to stay:** *“**nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.**”* Luke 22:42 NKJV
 - 2) **He chose to submit as a servant and not fight:** *“But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or **do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?**””* Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV
 - 3) **He chose to forgive, get pierced, and stay on the cross:** *“Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, **“He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.** He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ””* (Matthew 27:41-43) *“Then Jesus said, **“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”** And they divided His garments and cast lots. Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, **“If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.”** And Jesus said to him, **“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**”* Luke 23:34, 39, 43 NKJV
 - 4) **He chose to die!** *“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, **and yielded up His spirit.**”* Matthew 27:50 NKJV
3. Your turn! Slavery to God is anything but oppressive.
 - a) *“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves?”*
 - 1) *“...**choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,** whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**”* Joshua 24:15 NKJV

4. Freedom is having no other options... is there really a choice? A slave to God or a slave to sin!
 - a) *"Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, **'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'**" They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.** And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but **a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.**"* John 8:31-36 NKJV
5. You cannot serve two masters.
 - a) *"**No one can serve two masters;** for either he will **hate the one and love the other,** or else he will be **loyal to the one and despise the other.** You cannot serve God and mammon."* Matthew 6:24 NKJV
 - b) Pick the master whom you will serve.
 - 1) **Your own lawless behavior:** Leads to death. *"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, **when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.**"* James 1:14-15 NKJV
 - 2) **Radical obedience to God:** Leads to righteousness. *"Little children, let no one deceive you. **He who practices righteousness is righteous,** just as He is righteous."* 1 John 3:7 NKJV

(4) Choices

- (a) What choice did you make?
 1. *"But God be thanked that though you **were slaves of sin,** yet you **obeyed from the heart** that **form of doctrine** to which you were delivered. And having been **set free from sin,** you became **slaves of righteousness.**"* Romans 6:17-18 NKJV

THREE SLAVES

2. Body, Soul, and Spirit

A. A Temporal Object Lesson with Eternal Ramifications

(1) May I Present....

- (a) Let's put this in human terms!
 1. *"I speak in **human terms** because of the **weakness of your flesh.** For **just as you presented** your members as **slaves of uncleanness,** and of **lawlessness** leading to more lawlessness, so **now present** your members as **slaves of righteousness for holiness.**"* Romans 6:19 NKJV

(2) Slaves of God

(a) Fruit

1. "For when you were **slaves of sin**, you were **free in regard to righteousness**. **What fruit did you have** then in the things of which you are **now ashamed?** For the **end** of those things is **death**. But now having been **set free from sin**, and having become **slaves of God**, you have your **fruit to holiness**, and the **end**, everlasting **life**." Romans 6:20-22 NKJV

(3) We can now end where we began.

(a) Choose this day whom you will serve.

1. "For the **wages of sin is death**, but the **gift of God is eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord.
" Romans 6:23 NKJV