

Servants Of The Faith

Intro: Jude, as just about every New Testament writer refers to himself as a servant of Jesus Christ; Jude 1-2 “Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, *and* called: ²Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.” The word servant come from a word which actually means slave. We are a slave to someone; Rom. 6:16 “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” Because God made us as free moral agents, we either freely choose to become the slave of Christ or we are the slave of sin and Satan; John 8:34 “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.” Let us consider the aspect of a slave.

I. A SLAVE IS ONE WHO IS OWNED BY ANOTHER.

A. We have been redeemed.

1. Redeemed means to buy back.
2. Tit. 2:14 “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”
3. 1 Pet. 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:”

B. We have been bought.

1. 1 Cor. 6:19-20 “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”
2. Acts 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

C. We are owned by God and thus belong to God.

II. A SLAVE IS ONE WHO LOSES HIS IDENTITY FOR HIS MASTER.

A. In baptism we die to self.

1. Rom. 6:3-4, 6-7 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life...⁶Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷For he that is dead is freed from sin.”
2. Gal. 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”
3. Phi. 1:20-21 “According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death. ²¹For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.”

B. We become a partaker of God’s nature

1. Col. 3:10 “And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:”
2. 2 Pet. 1:3-4 “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and

virtue: ⁴Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

3. God is light.
 - a. 1 John 1:5 “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”
 - b. We are to be reflecting His light; Mat. 5:14-16 “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

III. A SLAVE IS ONE WHO LOSES HIS WILL FOR HIS MASTER.

A. Jesus was one who did the Father’s will.

1. John 4:34 “Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.”
2. John 6:38 “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.”

B. Likewise, we must lose our will to the Father’s will.

1. There is always a battle in our mind:
2. There is a desire in our mind (lust) which we must overcome.
3. We must turn complete control of our life over to Him.

IV. SOME RESPONSIBILITIES OF OUR BEING A SERVANT (SLAVE) OF CHRIST.

A. Glorifying God

1. We are to glorify God in our lives.
 - a. Ecc. 12:13 “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.”
 - b. 1 Cor. 6:20; 10:31 “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s...^{10:31}Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”
2. Christ glorified God in His life.
 - a. John 17:4 “I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.”
 - b. He did this by losing His will for the Father’s will.
3. Application in our life:
 - a. With our time
 - (1) Eph. 5:15-16 “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”
 - (2) We have become so busy we have no time for God in our lives.
 - b. With our opportunities
 - c. With our abilities
 - d. With our money
 - e. With our whole being; Mat. 22:37-38 “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment.”

- f. With our decisions
- B. Saving Souls**
- 1. Luke 19:10 “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
 - 2. Great Commission
 - a. Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”
 - b. Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

Conclusion: Jesus did the will of the Father and was accepted by Him. When we lose ourselves for God and become a slave of God, we also will be accepted with the Fathers