

THE CHURCH AND SLAVES

I Timothy 6:1-2

Intro:

- A. We have studied about the church and the many relationships it must oversee.
 - 1. Aged and youth, the widows of the congregation.
 - 2. The Elders are also a part of Paul's instruction.
 - 3. We have now come to a most unique relationship, that of believing slaves and their masters.
- B. We must distinguish between Christ and His Church
 - 1. In Christ there are no distinctions.
 - 2. **Galatians 3:26-28**
 - 3. In the church these distinctions are real and continue.
 - 4. **Ephesians 6:1-10** (5-9)

I. The Master/Slave Relationship.

- A. Vs 1 "Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour..."
 - 1. "Servants" = δουλος = "a slave", "one bound to serve".
 - 2. "Yoke" = ζυγος = "that which serves to couple any two things together".
 - 3. "Masters" = δεσποτης = "absolute dominion".
 - 4. "Let these who are under yoke as slaves..." - MON
"Remember that their masters are entitled to perfect respect" - MOF
- B. "...that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed."
 - 1. "Doctrine" = διδασκαλια = "teaching".
 - 2. "Blaspheme" = βλασφημew = "to slander".
 - 3. "So that God's name and what we teach isn't slandered".

- C. Vs 2 "And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren..."
1. "Believing" = ΠΙΣΤΟΣ = "to obey, hence faithful"
 2. "Masters" = (see A-3)
 3. "Despise" = καταφρονέω = "to think down upon"
 4. "And let these whose masters are of the faith"
BAS "Must not look with disrespect and look down on them because they are fellow church members."
- D. "...but rather do them service,..."
1. "Rather" = μάλλον = comparative, = "rather more".
 2. "Service" = δουλεύω = "to serve as a slave".
- E. "...because they are faithful and beloved,..."
1. "Faithful" = ΠΙΣΤΟΙ = "believing".
 2. "Beloved" = αγαπητός = "one loving".
 3. "Are dear to them as fellow believers".
- F. "...partakers of the benefit."
1. "Partakers" = αντιλαμβανομαι = "to take hold of", "in one's turn", "to take part in".
 2. "Benefit" = ευεργεσία = "good service".
 3. "Since those who benefit from their service are fellow believers and beloved".