

## What Does the Bible Teach About Slavery?

1. The word “\_\_\_\_\_” does not appear in the King James Bible, but the concept of compulsory service of one person to another **does** exist.
2. Servanthood was embedded in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Bible times. It was extremely common.
3. As we will see, many times compulsory service in the Bible was an act of mercy to provide for the poor rather than an act of exploitation.

### What were some reasons why people may have found themselves to be servants?

1. You \_\_\_\_\_ **yourself** to be a servant. Leviticus 25:39-41, 44-47; Exodus 12:45
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ from another person. Exodus 22:3
3. You could not pay your \_\_\_\_\_. Exodus 21:2-6
4. You simply \_\_\_\_\_ this life. Deuteronomy 15:16-17

### What are some biblical warnings about the issue of servanthood?

1. A person could not be kidnapped and \_\_\_\_\_ into slavery or sold as a slave. Exodus 21:16; Deuteronomy 24:7; 1 Timothy 1:10
2. Foreign slaves who ran away from their Gentile masters were to be welcomed in Israel, and \_\_\_\_\_ returned to their masters. Deuteronomy 23:15-16
3. Servants were \_\_\_\_\_ to be treated with cruelty. Exodus 21; Ephesians 6:9

## What did the apostle Paul teach about the issue of servanthood?

- As we said earlier in this lesson, Paul lived in a day and culture in which it was very \_\_\_\_\_ for people to have servants working for them.
  - Some of the reasons were legitimate (thievery, unpaid debt, etc.), but some may not have been. Therefore, Paul gave guidelines and principles that would help a believer to show forth Christ whether he found himself a servant or free.
1. Glorify Christ and reflect His \_\_\_\_\_ no matter your social status.  
1 Corinthians 7:20-22
  2. Treat those who serve under you fairly and with \_\_\_\_\_. Ephesians 6:9; Colossians 4:1
  3. If you are a servant, serve with a right attitude and a right work ethic, as if Jesus is your boss. Colossians 3:22-23; Ephesians 6:5-7; 1 Timothy 6:1-2; Titus 2:9-10

## How does Paul's gospel impact the issue of servanthood?

- The Bible approaches many cultural issues from an inside-out approach. The way you change culture is by changing the \_\_\_\_\_ of the people within the culture.
  - Paul gets to the very root of the issue by dealing with the overriding issues of love, grace, patience, kindness, etc. Here are some of the doctrines that Paul taught that would greatly impact the way a person thought about servanthood:
1. Paul taught that there are **no** social distinctions in the body of Christ.  
1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11
  2. Paul taught that when a servant is saved, he should be treated not as a servant, but as a \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ. Philemon 15-16

3. Paul taught that God is no respecter of persons, and eternal \_\_\_\_\_ are given on an absolutely equal basis. Ephesians 6:8-9
4. Paul taught that Christ was a servant (Philippians 2:7) and that he himself (Paul) was a servant (Romans 1:1; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Galatians 1:10; Philippians 1:1), and that \_\_\_\_\_ believers are ultimately servants of Christ, not men. 1 Corinthians 7:22-23

**All of these doctrines would ultimately lay an axe at the \_\_\_\_\_ of slavery and help to abolish the evils of slavery.**