

THE LAW OF SERVITUDE
Romans 6:15-23

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The Romans were not under law
 - 1) verse 14
 - 2) Laws do not cause or correct sin
- B. They were living "with Christ", "under grace"
 - 1) What then? What about this life?
 - 2) verse 15
 - 3) God never thought of such a thing!
- C. Paul now uses an illustration from their lives to give them better understanding.
 - 1) verse 19a
 - 2) "I speak this way, using the illustration about slaves, because it makes it easy to understand."

I. The Law of Servitude and Living Under Grace vs. 16

- A. "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey;"
 - 1) "yield" = paristemi = "to place nearby", "to place or present before", "the act by which a person became a voluntary or involuntary slave"
 - 2) "servants" = doulos = "a bond slave", "one whose will and capacity is wholly at the service of another"
 - 3) "Don't you know that when you submit to someone as master and obey him, you become his slave?" NOR
- B. "whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness."
 - 1) "and this is true whether you serve sin, with death as its result; or obedience, with righteousness as its results." NEB

II. How To Change Masters vs. 17

- A. "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin,"
 - 1) "thanked" = charis to theo
 - 2) "servants" = doulos
 - 3) They were, not are, slaves of sin!
- B. "But ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."
 - 1) "obeyed" = upakouo = "to listen with stealth"
 - 2) "heart" = kardia = "the seat of life"
 - 3) "form" = tupos = "type", "model", "pattern"
 - 4) "doctrine" = didache = "teaching", "thing taught"
 - 5) "delivered" = paradidomi = "to give or to hand over to another"

III. The Result of Changing Masters vs. 18

- A. "Being then made free from sin"
- 1) "free" = eleutheroo = "set at liberty"
 - 2) "sin" = amartia = "failure"
- B. "ye became the servants of righteousness"
- 1) "servants" = douloo = "to bring in bondage"
 - 2) "righteousness" = dikaiosune = "that which God approves"
"God's will", "His standard"

IV. As Slaves We Yield To Our Masters vs. 19

- A. "for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity;"
- 1) "yielded" = paristemi = "to place before"
 - 2) "members" = melos = "a limb of the body"
 - 3) "servants"
 - 4) "uncleanness" = akatharsia = "impurity", "lewdness", "dissoluteness", "opposite of holiness"
 - 5) "iniquity" = anomia = "violation of law", "transgression of the law", "lawlessness"
 - 6) "once you offered every part of your bodies to the service of impurity, and of wickedness, which leads to further wickedness" TENT
- B. "even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness"
- 1) "yield"
 - 2) "holiness" = agiasmos = "sanctification", "essential purity" = The state of being set apart for God's service and as a result of growth becoming more like God in His characteristics. Holiness can be accomplished only by a holy person!
- C. "For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness."
- 1) "For when you were slaves of sin,"
 - 2) "you were not under subjection to righteousness"
 - 3) We cannot serve two masters

V. The Fruit of Our Servitude vs. 21

- A. Fruit we are ashamed of vs. 21
- 1) "fruit" = karpos = "produce", "result"
 - 2) "ashamed" = apaischunomai = "to have the feeling which attends the performance of a dishonorable deed", "to shame one's self"
 - 3) "But what were the fruits that you reaped from those things of which you are now ashamed...WMS", "None, for they end in death....WMS"

B. Fruit unto holiness vs. 22

- 1) "But now being made free from sin"
- 2) "and become servants to God"
- 3) "your fruit is growth in holiness"
- 4) "and its end is life eternal"

VI. The Wages of Our Servitude vs. 23

A. "For the wages of sin is death;"

- 1) "wages" = opsonion = "whatever is bought to be eaten with bread, as meat, fish, etc. Hired soldiers were paid partly in meat, fruit, etc.; hence, a stipend, wages, especially of soldiers."
- 2) "sin pays its servants: the wage is death" Phi

B. "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

- 1) "gift" = charisma = "a gift of grace"
- 2) "but the free-gift of God"
- 3) "eternal life"
- 4) This is "through Jesus Christ our Lord"
- 5) It is not what we earn!

