

Bond-Servants Of Jesus Christ

2 Timothy 2:20-26

• How do we see ourselves as Christians?

- As Independent Contractors?
- As Marketing Directors?
- As Part Time Employees?
- Or as a humble servant?
- See 1 Corinthians 4:1

Bond-Servants of Jesus Christ

"A slave, bondman, man of servile condition. One who gives himself up wholly to another's will. One who is devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests."

Definition Of A Bond-Servant

Contrary to the history of mankind, being a bond-servant is only by choice or decision.

- Romans 6:16-19 – slaves of the one we obey
- Matthew 11:28-30 – Jesus invites us to "take My yoke upon you".

Servitude As A Matter Of Choice

- "In Jewish literature a 'yoke' represents the sum-total of obligations which, according to the teaching of the rabbis, a person must take upon himself."

– William Hendriksen (Matthew, NT Commentary)

- Who will we seek to please?
2 Timothy 2:4; Galatians 1:9-10

What Is A Yoke?

1. He is useful to the Master (verses 21-22)

- He cleanses himself and flees youthful lusts.
- He pursues faith, love and peace.
- Are we of any use to Him? What if we're not? Matthew 25:24-30

Attributes Of Bond-Servants

2. Is Not Quarrelsome – verse 24

- Are we just looking to pick a fight or prove we're right?
- 2 Timothy 2:23 – refuse foolish and ignorant speculations.
- God has revealed what we need to know. Deuteronomy 29:29
- We need to defend (Galatians 1:8-9) & contend (Jude 3), without being quarrelsome.

Attributes Of Bond-Servants**3. Kind To All– verse 24**

- “characterizing a nurse with trying children or a teacher with refractory scholars.”
- The ability to reason and persuade. Acts 17:2, 17; 18:4; 19:8; 26:28
- A “spirit of gentleness”. Galatians 6:1

Attributes Of Bond-Servants**4. Able To Teach– verse 24**

- Ability to handle God's word accurately. 2 Timothy 2:15
- Preach what you practice–Ezra 7:10
 - Study
 - Practice
 - Teach
- God's expects all to! Hebrews 5:12

Attributes Of Bond-Servants**5. Patient When Wronged – verse 24**

- The “quality of self-restraint in the face of provocation which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish.”
- We will suffer, will we endure? Hebrews 10:32-36
- Will we refrain from retaliation? 1 Peter 2:23
- Part of the worthy walk. Ephesians 4:1-2

Attributes Of Bond-Servants**6. Correcting Those In Opposition– verse 25**

- No acquiescence to error. Galatians 2:5
- Includes idea of chastisement as in training up a child. “Influence conscious will and action”.
- Speak the truth in love. Ephesians 4:15
- Warnings are needed. Ezekiel 3:16-21; 2 Timothy 4:2

Attributes Of Bond-Servants**7. Seeking To Save Souls– verses 25-26**

- Christians seek to help others to be brought to the Lord. Acts 11:24
- Help them come to their senses. Literally, return to soberness. 1 Thessalonians 5:4-8; Luke 15:17
- Escape the snare of the devil. Ephesians 6:10ff

Attributes Of Bond-Servants

- "I have called you friends..."
John 15:14-15
- "No longer a slave but a son..."
Galatians 4:4-7
- The invitation today is come in faithful obedience to the gospel as a bond-servant of Jesus Christ and receive the blessings of being His friend and God's son.

But More Than A Servant