

Servants

Sunday, December 29, 2019

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Straight Paths Bible Church

Titus 2:9-10 Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

- I. This is a position in life that we all experience.
 - A. We are all servants of others in some respect at all times in our lives.
 - B. We are as sure to be in this position as we are to be young and old.
 - C. It is another one of those things that has to do with order.
 - D. Servant and master are two terms that simply set things in order between people.
 - E. The nature of life requires that there be servants.
 - F. A servant is:

A person that attends another for the purpose of performing menial offices for him, or who is employed by another for such offices or for other labor, and is subject to his command.

- G. Our modern word for servant and master is "employee" and "employer."
- H. To be a servant is not demeaning or humiliating, but in God's order it is esteemed highly and regarded as an exalted position. Jesus said:

Matthew 20:27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

Matthew 23:11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Matthew 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

- I. The pride and selfishness of man is what causes him to despise being a servant and covet the position of master.
 - J. Just as in all other matters that have to do with God's order, men and women rebel at this one, also.
 - K. Many people equate being a servant to being a slave and they are not the same.
 - 1. The servant's subjection to a master is voluntary, the slave's is not.
 - 2. Every slave is a servant, but every servant is not a slave.
- II. Since being a servant is a certain part of life for all of us God has some instructions for how we are to conduct ourselves in this office.
 - A. Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters,
 - 1. Listen to what they tell you and do what they say – the way they said to do it.
 - 2. Respect their authority and right to tell you what they want you to do.
 - 3. Respect their right to expect of you what they are paying you for.
 - 4. Do not try to change what they want done with your own ideas.
 - B. ...and to please them well in all things
 - 1. Obedience means more than simply complying with certain commands.
 - 2. Obedience means to do what is pleasing to them.
 - 3. We are to strive to PLEASE those we work for, not just do what we have to do, or what we know we are required to do. Jesus said:

Luke 17:10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

- C. ...not answering again
 - 1. Do not talk back and argue or try to reason with him about what he has told you to do.
 - 2. Do not contradict him or dispute with him about it.
 - 3. This is most displeasing to a boss or anyone you are a servant too.
 - 4. None of us would be pleased with a servant answering and disputing and arguing with us. (waitress, mechanic, carpenter, etc.)
- D. Not purloining...
 - 1. Not to take or carry away for yourself things that belong to your employer.
 - 2. If a person feels like they have a right to take things for themselves that do not belong to them they are far from a right state of mind about their position.
 - 3. God expects us to respect the rights and property of others - if we do not it is ungodly behavior and thinking.
- E. ...but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.
 - 1. A Christian will be a very poor testimony for God if he does not obey his employer's orders and try to please him in all that he does.
 - 2. A Christian will be a very poor testimony for God if he argues with orders and disputes and contends with everything, or even some of what he is told to do.
 - 3. What kind of testimony would a Christian have if he stole from his employer?
- F. We should be a Christian FIRST in all our stations in life.
 - 1. It is God's honor that is at stake and we should always remember that.
 - 2. When we profess to be a Christian others watch us and they either bless our God or blaspheme him on our account.
 - 3. When we are young we should conduct ourselves in a manner that honors God and proves that His Lordship in our life makes us a better person.
 - 4. When we are old the fruits of a life lived for God should be abundant and visible in our behavior and conduct toward others.
 - 5. If we are a man or a woman we should conduct ourselves with God's honor in view at all times.
 - 6. Those people who truly love God will be this way, but those who love themselves more will chose what is most pleasing to them instead.