

Servants of God!

Text Verses Colossians 3:23-25

Greek meaning of Servant = δοῦλος doulos (doûlos) - a slave (literal or figurative, involuntary or voluntary; frequently, therefore in a qualified sense of subjection or subserviency) bond(-man), servant.

- Paul wrote his letter to the Colossians while he was in prison
- The book of Colossians is addressed to Christians so our text verses apply to true believers

1. Be a Servant of God with Everything You Have – Heart Soul Mind and Strength

Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

- Surrender all to Christ – Song “I surrender All”. Have a Singleness of Heart
- Serve God in your worldly calling and profession: Employees, students and homemakers too
- We should excel because we love God, not just to please our boss, friends or family
- We all should have a special work of service to our Lord based upon our gifts of the Spirit
- Be faithful in your prayer life, bible reading and time alone with Jesus
- Ask yourself, honestly, are you doing all you can do to live a life heartily as to the Lord

Colossians 3:24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

- God gives us Incentives to Obedience
- Blessings here on earth, a future glorified body and a home in Heaven
- A reward (not a wage) because only by God’s calling, mercy, love and forgiveness do we serve
- God will reward our obedience – if you love me keep my commandments

Colossians 3:25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.

- Can a true Christian sin? YES!
- Paul addresses wives, husbands, children, masters and servants – all will be held to account
- God will not give preference to anyone based upon status, money, political connections or job
- Refer to verses 3:5 & 3:8 in this chapter for a short list of sins
- All our deeds are written down in God’s books by recording angels
- Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

2. God’s Great Day of Judgment for All of US is Coming very Soon

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

- The lost sinner scoffs at the thought, but it will happen, it must happen because God so decreed
- It is appointed on everyone to die – we have a date circled on God’s calendar; lost or saved
- Every soul from ages past, present and future; every human must give an account to Jesus
- The Judgment Seat: God is impartial and just, wise, all knowing of all evidence, nothing hid
- The devils will accuse and the angels will be witnesses
- And all believers will have an advocate with the Father, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 5:11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

- God is a consuming fire offering us highest clemency or severest punishment
- The terror of the appearance, the proceedings and the sentence
- We persuade men by sharing the Gospel of Christ
- God's majesty should instill within us a Holy Fear of His infinite attributes
- We are manifest unto God because He searches the inward heart
- Are manifest in our consciences For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

3. The Fear of the LORD is our Fountain of Life

Psalm 90:11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, *so is* thy wrath.

- You cannot be saved without some level of fear and respect for God
- Fear and wrath are Inversely proportional
- For the lost person, the less he fears God the more God's wrath will be released upon him
- It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God at judgement

Psalm 90:12 So teach *us* to number our days, that we may apply *our* hearts unto wisdom.

- We all have a finite number of days to live our life
- It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment
- The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
- The Fear of the Lord is His treasure
- The wicked man has no fear of God before his eyes
- Wicked men hate knowledge of holy things, and they do not choose the fear of the LORD
- We who understand the fear of the LORD, will find the knowledge of God

4. God's Purposeful Meaning for our Life is to Love Him, to Serve Him and Keep His Commandments

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

- Jesus said if we love Him we will keep His commandments

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

- Let's pray...