

SERIES: 1 Timothy
What About Slavery?
1 Timothy 6:1-2

Main Idea: Although slavery is a product of sin, slaves should live for the glory of God and the advancement of the gospel.

Slavery in History

- World history is filled with various types of slavery.
 - **Hebrew** servanthood
 - **Roman** slavery
 - Indentured servitude
 - **African** slave trade
- Biblical history is filled with various perspectives on slavery.
 - Slavery is not a part of creation; it is a product of **sin**.
 - Specific situations in a sinful world warrant specific instructions to a sinful world.
 - Biblical instructions concerning slavery do not imply biblical **approval** of slavery.

Slavery in Scripture (6:1-2)

- The Bible **condemns** slavery.
 - Slavery undermines God's **creation**.
 - We have equal **dignity** before God.
 - We are equally submissive to God.
 - We will receive equal **justice** from God.
 - Slavery violates God's **word**.
- The Bible **regulates** slavery.
 - God mandates physical protection for slaves.
 - God requires financial provision for slaves.
 - God ensures caring supervision of slaves.
 - God promotes (and in some ways guarantees) eventual freedom from slavery.
- The Bible **encourages** slaves.
 - Honor unbelieving masters.
 - For the glory of God.
 - For the advancement of the gospel.
 - Respect believing masters.
- The Bible **redeems** slavery.
 - The beauty of Christ: Our Master has become our **servant**.
 - The essence of Christianity: We gladly become his **slave**.

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