

THEY THAT ARE CHRIST'S

Gal 5:24

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The most important question one could ask an individual is: Are you a Christian?
- B. If one is a genuine Christian (there is no other kind) he no longer belongs to himself, he belongs to Christ 1Cor 6:19,20; Acts 27:23
- C. When something is purchased it is expected to serve the one who purchased it

DISCUSSION: (TITLE)

I. A CHRISTIAN BELONGS TO CHRIST AS A SLAVE TO A MASTER

- A. We are freed to become slaves 1Cor 7:22; Rom 6:16-22
- B. This is a voluntary slavery, one is not forced Rom 12:1
- C. Similar to an indentured servant who places himself in service to another for purpose of training or a debt

II. SLAVERY TO CHRIST REQUIRES TOTAL COMMITMENT AND SUBJECTION

- A. Note some modern "slaves"
 1. A slave to tobacco will "walk a mile for a Camel." He allows nothing to hinder use of tobacco 1Cor 6:19
 2. A slave to alcohol or drugs (alcohol is a drug) buys and drinks or takes drugs at tremendous sacrifice. He/she may lose his home, job, family. He/she may allow family to suffer. He/she may be humiliated and ashamed, and then promise to give up alcohol or drugs. But they are still his master, and when they call, the slave responds, regardless of sacrifice, they allow nothing to hinder their use. Eph 5:18
 3. A slave to style and fashion will follow the fashion regardless of how ridiculous or sinful fashion may become. Christians must often ignore the fashion 1Tim 2:9,10; Rom 12:2; 1Cor 11:1-16. Christian women will not wear the attire of a harlot Prov 7:10. But a slave to fashion allows nothing to hinder their following and adhering to fashion
 4. A slave to a wife will give his wife his check and do anything she request. He allows nothing to hinder his service to his wife. A slave to a husband will do the same. Yes we are to serve one another, but we have a master superior to them Eph 5:22-25
 5. Slave to work - must work Eph 4:28; 1Tim 5:8 but job is not most important thing in life

- B. And so it will be with those who are slaves to Christ, but remember this is voluntary and prompted by love
 1. Slave to Christ recognizes service to be rendered Jas 1:27; Eph 4:28; Matt 25:32-40; Tit 2:2-4; 2Tim 2:15; Heb 10:25
 2. The slave to Christ will allow nothing to hinder his service to Christ: criticism; objections by spouse; ridicule; persecution, entertainment; bad weather; slight impositions; etc, etc
 3. The slave to Christ, if he becomes involved in secular activities, will see to it that those activities will not make demands that hinder service to his Master
 4. The slave to Christ will always place God's will and work ahead of his own
 5. Are you a slave to Christ if you don't study; don't attend worship assemblies and Bible studies: if you miss services for entertainment, to please a companion, or to please company?

III. SLAVERY TO CHRIST REQUIRES A REJECTION OF ALL OTHER MASTERS

- A. A Christian cannot serve two masters Matt 6:24
- B. One is trying to serve two masters when:
 1. They acknowledges Christ as Master and sometime seeks to please Him; but at other times let pleasure or companions or company hinder obedience to the will of their Master
 2. They acknowledges Christ as their Master, but allow fashion to dictate immodest dress - male or female
 3. They acknowledge Christ as Master, but allow a love for money hinder them from contributing freely to the support of proclaiming the gospel, edifying of saints and the care of the needy.
- C. Every time one allows money, pleasure, entertainment, friends, companions, visitors or anything to prevent his doing the will of Jesus, he is holding on to one master and despising the other and the one he is despising is Christ
- D. The Lord's slave must not tie himself up with secular interest that will keep him from responding whenever his Master calls 2Tim 2:4

CONCLUSION:

- A. A Christian does not belong to himself. He belongs to Christ
- B. He is a slave of Christ, purchased by Him and duty bound to serve Him
- C. Let each one conduct himself as a loyal slave to his Master.