Bond-Servants Of The Lord

Prepared By Nathan L Morrison For Sunday September 26th, 2021

Text: II Timothy 2:24-26

# Intro

1. The Scriptures say that as Christians, we are *servants* of the Lord.
2. As servants of the Lord, there is work to be done – it is a dedication to a life of service (to God and to others)!
   1. Some people get their hackles raised at the term “servant” and they miss the point.
3. II Timothy 2:24-26: We are told we are more than servants, saints are bond-servants!
   1. Some translations just say “servants” but it is correctly translated in the NASB as “bond-servants” from *doulos (G1401),* which means: “slave (fig. or lit.); bond-servant, bond-man, bond-slave.”
   2. This is the same word used in Matthew 20:27 when Jesus says, “whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave.” Slave, bond-servant (Matthew 20:26-28).
4. To be great in the Lord’s kingdom, one must be a servant and a bond-servant to all!
5. The Lord’s Bond-Servant is ***Committed*** to Christ
   1. II Tim. 2:24: The Lord’s “bond-servant”
6. This indicates ownership, that we are the Lord’s.
7. He has purchased us.
   1. *I Cor. 6:19-20:* We are “bought with a price.”
   2. *Titus 2:14:* He “gave Himself for us to redeem us.”
   3. *I Pet. 1:18-19:* We are redeemed with “precious blood,” “the blood of Christ.”
   4. Commitment of the Servant:
8. The Lord’s servant realizes that he/she belongs to the Lord, so whatever the Master instructs to do, the servant does (Titus 2:14).
9. We have to understand that we are the Lord’s before we can go further into the text because He outlines what He expects of us.
10. We have to be committed to Him with our whole heart in order to obey.
    1. Mk. 12:28-30: In response to a question of what was the greatest command in the Law? Jesus answered, “…you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” *(Deut. 6:5)*
    2. *Mt. 6:33*: “Seek first the kingdom of God.” We must be committed to serving Him before we do that.
    3. Rom. 6:17-18: Commitment to God brings about “slaves of righteousness.”
    4. As bond-servants, we are to be committed to the Lord’s cause!

### The Lord’s Bond-Servant is ***Competent***

#### II Tim. 2:24: The Lord’s bond-servant is “able to teach.”

1. The phrase, “able to teach” means the individual is “skillful in teaching” (Vines); “apt to teach,” “instructive” *(G1317 didaktikos).*
2. In order to be “skillful in teaching” or “able to teach” one must know what one is teaching.
3. To know what to teach, one must study.
   1. *II Tim. 2:15:* To accurately handle the word of truth, you must study to know what it contains, to teach it, to defend it, and to not be led astray by error.
   2. Not everyone can be or desires to be a teacher (or should be), but saints ought to be able to defend or “answer” questions of faith (Js. 3:1-2; I Pet. 3:15).

#### Competence comes from:

1. **Preparation**
   1. Jesus spent time preparing His apostles to teach.
   2. Jn. 17:3: Preparation demands knowledge of the Lord.
   3. *II Tim. 2:15*: Preparation demands knowledge of the word of the Lord.
2. **Practice** 
   1. There are lots of secular professions that “practice” a particular craft, job, or calling of some sort (Doctors, Lawyers, etc.).
   2. We are called to be servants of the Lord.
   3. Heb. 5:14: The mature Servant, through practice, has their senses trained to discern good from evil.
   4. Servants of the Lord “practice” by being involved in:
      * Teaching (*Rom. 12:6-7: Use the ability to teach if have it*)
      * Preaching (*I Cor. 1:17: Use the ability to preach if have it*)
      * Visiting those in need (*Mt. 25:31-40*)
      * Restoring the lost (*Js. 5:19-20*)
      * Refuting error (*II Tim. 4:1-5: Saints need to be able to*)
3. **Persistence** 
   1. Heb. 5:12-14: It takes time to be able to teach. And that means it takes persistence on the part of the teacher to train pupils to become teachers.
   2. The Hebrews writer’s audience should have been teachers but instead, they themselves had need of being taught the basics again.

#### II Tim. 2:25-26: The Lord’s bond-servant teaches “with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition”

1. Here is the reason for teaching: To help those ensnared by the devil to break free!
2. Jude 22-23 describes saving the lost as an act of “mercy,” which is compassion!
3. Gentleness is a trait of Jesus that we are to put on (Col. 3:12) and a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:23).

#### The bond-servant of the Lord must be able to teach, and that means the servant of the Lord must know the word of the Lord!

1. The Lord’s Bond-Servant is ***Compassionate***
   1. II Tim. 2:24: The Lord’s bond-servant “must not be quarrelsome” (*II Tim. 2:24).*
2. Quarrelsome = “to strive, to fight, to dispute.” (Vines)
3. It is said of Jesus that He was not sent here to quarrel.
   1. *Mt. 12:14-21:* Prophesied by Isaiah that “He will not quarrel…”
4. The servant of the Lord is to imitate Christ (*I Cor.11:1*) and not be quarrelsome.
   1. *I Cor. 1:11:* Paul had to chastise the church at Corinth with his letter because it was reported that there were quarrels among them.
   2. *Js. 4:1-4:* James tells us the source for quarrels and fighting: it is the pleasing of Self.
   3. II Tim. 2:24: The Lord’s bond-servant is “kind to all”
5. Paul is an example of one who was gentle, or kind to all.
6. Like a nurse *(I Thess. 2:7)* and father *(I Thess. 2:10-12).*

#### II Tim. 2:24: The Lord’s bond-servant is “patient when wronged”

* + - 1. We are to be “patient when wronged.”

1. Is. 53:7: It was prophesied that Jesus would be oppressed, suffer being wronged, but would not open His mouth.
2. *Mt. 27:12-14:* The fulfillment of that prophecy. He did not answer them against any of the charges.
   * + 1. Jesus is our example of patience, of endurance, and perseverance *(I Pet. 2:21)*
3. *Gal. 5:22*: Patience is a fruit of the Spirit.
4. *Eph. 4:1-3:* We are called to be servants, and we need to walk in a manner worthy of that calling, and to do that we need patience.
5. *I Thess. 5:14:* We are to encourage the faint-hearted, and to be patient with everyone.

#### As bond-servants of the Lord we are to put on a heart of compassion & love! (Col. 3:12-14)

## Conclusion

1. The bond-servants of the Lord must be committed to Christ, competent and compassionate to teach others so that they may escape the bonds of the devil and be free in Jesus Christ! (II Timothy 2:24-26)
2. It is an honor to be the Lord’s bond-servant! Free from sin but a slave to righteousness and recipients of the free gift of God in Christ: Eternal Life! (Rom. 6:17-18, 23)
3. Take a look at the brief company we are in as “bond-servants of the Lord”:
   1. **Moses** – *Revelation 15:3*
   2. **Peter** – *II Peter 1:1*
   3. **John** – *Revelation 1:1*
   4. **Paul** – *Romans 1:1; Gal. 1:10; Tit. 1:1*
   5. **Timothy** – *Philippians 1:1*
   6. **Epaphras –** *Colossians 1:7*
   7. **Tychichus –** *Colossians 4:7*
   8. **James** – *James 1:1*
   9. **Jude** – *Jude 1:1*
   10. **Jesus was called a “bond-servant” of God –** *Phil. 2:5-11*
4. Jesus taught His apostles that to be great, one must serve (Mt. 20:25-28).
5. There is greatness in being a bond-servant of the Lord for if we remain faithful until death & overcome the trials of life, we will spend eternity with our Lord and Savior!
6. If you have not obeyed the gospel, ***NOW’s*** the chance. You are a servant, but not the Lord’s. Serving Self is serving Satan. Repent of your sins and be baptized and serve the Lord!
7. If a Christian who has wandered your own path, ***NOW’s*** the time to come home. If not serving Christ, you are serving another. Repent of your sins and ask God for forgiveness!
8. Whatever your requests, come forward ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!