

Slaves Of God

Rom. 6:22

Introduction:

- A. Paul gives two good reasons for not continuing in sin.
 - 1. Have become dead to sin in baptism. (vv. 1-4).
 - 2. Have presented selves to God as a slave of righteousness. (v. 16).
- B. Paul then shows three traits of "slaves (servants KJV) of God":

Discussion:

I. Slaves Of God Are Bound, yet FREE.

- A. Free from sin. (vv. 18,20,22; cf. 3:23)
 - 1. Not by some supernatural force -- Presented or yielded self. (v. 16).
 - 2. Not unconditionally. (v. 16-18, 4,5; cf. Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38).
- B. Free to serve — not to do as please. (v. 20).
- C. Free to choose -- can choose lawlessness or righteousness, death or life. (v. 19).
 - 1. Must still choose. ("So no present your members...").
 - 2. May apostatize if so desire. (Heb. 3:12,13).

II. Slaves Of God Are free, yet BOUND. (v. 16 - No freedom absolute)

- A. Duty bound to be righteous (rightwise) (vv. 16-19; cf. Psa. 119:172).
 - 1. Not "right" to lie, cheat, curse, covet, be immoral, etc.
 - 2. Not "right" to neglect assembling, studying, worshipping, etc.
- B. Duty bound to be holy (pure, separate) (vs. 19,22)
 - 1. To stay separated from sins of world, now ashamed of them. (v. 21; cf. Jas. 1:27; 4:4).
 - 2. To stay separated from vain religion. (1 Cor. 10:20,21; 2 John 9-11).

III. Slaves Of God Promised a REWARD, Yet warned.

- A. Warned that wages of sin is death [in hell]. (cf. Rev. 20:14).
 - 1. A place of eternal misery. (Rev. 20:10).
 - 2. A place of eternal separation - death mean separation. (cf. 2 Thess. 1:9).
 - 3. A place of eternal darkness. (Matt. 25:30).
 - 4. A place of eternal fire. (Mk. 9:43).
- B. Promised that gift of God is eternal life [in heaven] (cf. 1 Pet. 1:4).
 - 1. A place of relief from all problems. (Rev. 21:4).
 - 2. A place of beauty and bliss beyond comprehension. (cf. Rev. 21:18-21).

Conclusion:

- A. We are free indeed, yet duty bound, if we expect reward.
- B. If not yet free, then why not obey form of doctrine now?
- C. If are free, remain free.
- D. If are entangled in sin, repent and be restored.