



June 7, 2020

# THE SLAVE

LUKE 12

The Blessed Slave

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**"The Slave: The Blessed Slave"**

**PART II**

Luke 12

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## "THE SLAVE: The Blessed Slave - Part II"

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Last Sunday we began this significant study, birthed out of our study in Luke 12, when Jesus promised a "blessing on the faithful slave."

There are many words in Scripture to describe believers....Saints, Sons (sons and daughters of God), and we are slaves. It is used in the Old Testament as either a noun or verb 1100 times and in the New Testament it is used 150 times. We also noted how the word is seldom translated "slave" in our English versions, and the reason is mainly cultural.

While the British-American slave trade was utterly unrighteous and unbiblical, the Biblical account of slavery was the Roman account, and, while it could have pockets of inhuman treatment, by large it was much different. Slaves under Roman society had the opportunity to earn their freedom – eventually becoming citizens and even masters themselves. Additionally, the slaves of a good master enjoyed a stable and relatively comfortable life, and the slaves of important people often possessed a certain degree of their own prestige and influence. First-century slaves might be highly educated or trained as specialists in their fields, allowing them to function in the same capacity as free persons. In fact, some slaves even worked as doctors, teachers, or philosophers in the employ of their masters. Though Roman society never viewed slavery as the ideal, the institution did not generally carry the same stigma that is associated with the eighteenth-century slave trade.

Due to Luke 12, we are exploring how a slave could be blessed.

In verses 37 and 43 *"Blessed are those servants; blessed is that servant..."*

- I. We are blessed not to be a slave to sin.**
- II. We are blessed to be slaves of Christ.**
- III. We are blessed to have no personal rights**
- IV. We are blessed to call him our Lord and Master**



## "THE SLAVE: The Blessed Slave - Part II"

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**"Kyrois"** is the word translated **"Lord,"** and it is used 750 times in the New Testament with the fundamental meaning being master, owner, or Lord. And, it is Jesus – Lord of Lords.

This is the foundational reality – the fundamental confession of the Christian faith – and we repeat it in three simple words: Jesus is Lord.

**Romans 10:9-10** – *"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation."*

**Romans 10:13** – *"Everyone that calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

**I Corinthians 12:3** – *"Therefore I am informing you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus is cursed,' and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit."*

You cannot break the slavery of sin over your life without the powerful invasion of the Holy Spirit.

**Romans 1:16** – *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is God's power for salvation."*

Let's get this straight: **He is Lord, and I am His slave.**

**Jude 4** – *"For some men, who were designated for this judgment long ago, have come in by stealth; they are ungodly, turning the grace of our God into promiscuity and denying Jesus Christ, our only Master and Lord."*

The Greek word for Master here is only used 10 times in the NT and according to Strong's it means: absolute jurisdiction, unrestricted power, absolute domination without limitations or restraints.

There is only one Master and Lord....



## "THE SLAVE: The Blessed Slave - Part II"

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### **V. We are blessed to know the Master has plans for our life, not us.**

He is Sovereign over our life and his plans, not mine, are what are important.

**Colossians 3:22** - *"Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh..."*  
*And then Paul turns this to our relationship to the Lord in verse 23 "And whatever you do, do in heartily, as to the Lord and not to men."*

Verse 24 - *"for you serve the Lord Christ."*

**I John 2:3** - *"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."*

This is what James understands in **James 4:13,15** when he says, *"If the Lord wills, we will do such and such tomorrow."* Slaves did not go and do whatever they wished.

**Matthew 11:30** - *"His yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*  
As opposed to **Proverbs 13:15** - *"The way of a transgressor is hard."*

### **VI. We are blessed to own nothing or have any worries.**

No worries of anything personally

A good Master provided everything the slave needed and did it well: meals, housing, and health.

Note: this is in the context of **Luke 12** where Jesus has taught us you cannot love money and possessions and serve God at the same time. To be a faithful slave, your singular love and purpose is to serve your Master, and you don't worry about what you will wear or what you will eat - for the Father knows you have need of these things.

**(Luke 12: 22-34)**

Everything depended on the goodness of the master. A good Master provided everything the slave needed so the slave could serve him well.



## "THE SLAVE: The Blessed Slave - Part II"

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There was no greater master to have than Caesar – a place of prestige, privilege, as well as provisions.

We are slaves of the Most High God – of Christ.

### **VII. We are blessed to have been given the name of our Master.**

- A slave does business in a local store "in the name of His Master."
- We pray "in the name of our Master."
- Even their tombstones would carry the name of their master.
- **Revelation 22:4** – *"And his name is on us."*

### **VIII. We are blessed to have a generous and good Master.**

His whole life was determined by the goodness of the Master

Seven times in the Old Testament ..."The Lord is good ..."

**Psalms 34:8** – *"Oh taste and see that the Lord is good."*

**Romans 2:4** – *"Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?"*

**John 15:15** – *"I do not call you slaves anymore, because a slave doesn't know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from My Father."*