

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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Whom do you Serve?

“For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free (exempt) from righteousness. What fruit had ye in those things whereof now ye are ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But NOW being made free from sin (the dominion thereof), and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life (Rom. 6:20-22).

Dear beloved, who have a love for the truth and the glorious transformation that occurs in the born-again heir of grace. As stated in the aforementioned scripture, there is much said about servitude in the spiritual realm. For we are exhorted to “neither yield yourselves as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin SHALL NOT have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. (Rom.6:13-14)....

Bond Servant: A slave, one bound to serve.

The concept of a bond servant was recently brought to my attention by a dear respected elder Brother in Christ. It is apparent that the adopted heir of divine grace who has been made a “new creature” in Christ has been delivered from being a bond servant to serve sin and the dominion thereof. “But God be thanked, that ye WERE the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto you. Being MADE free (from dominion thereof) from sin, ye become the servants of righteousness (Rom.6:17-18).

“But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of SPIRIT, and not in the oldness of the letter” (Rom.7:6).

“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh to live after the flesh. (NOTE: We who have been translated into the Kingdom of God’s dear Son, as adopted heirs of grace have been adopted as “Bond Servants” unto Christ.) “We have NOT received the spirit

of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the SPIRIT of adoption, whereby we cry, "Abba, Father" (Rom.8-12 & 15).

Dear ones, we see that in the previous verse that the "spirit of bondage" is spelled with a small "S" indicated it is NOT the SPIRIT of God , but the spirit of man; we by nature are dominated by the "spirit of man" serving our depraved natures with the fruit of sin, but when one is called by the Good Shepherd and hears the voice of the Son of God, they are given the "Spirit of adoption", the Holy Spirit which brings us into that glorious union and experience through spiritual birth making us joint heirs with Christ. We become "bond servants" unto Christ, the new man, the second man, he who has been quickened and made alive from spiritual death.

In the final analysis, the question is; whom do we serve? Do we serve that which we were by nature made bond servants? Or are we dominated by the Spirit of Adoption which seeks to be the bond servant of Christ Jesus? The bond servant of Christ is evidenced by the FRUIT of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, against which there is no law (Gal. 5:22-23).

It is my earnest prayer that I would be found dominated by that Spirit of Adoption which causes me to be Christ's bond servant, that I might demonstrate the fruit of holiness and be continually transformed to the image of Christ in the pilgrim walk.

Respectfully submitted,