Titus (Week 28)

Tit 2:9-11

Probable behavior OR mentality	**What Paul commanded**
Being disobedient and rebellious	Subject themselves in everything.
Being displeasing, unpleasant, disagreeable, offensive.	Be well-pleasing.
Being quarrelsome, pugnacious, antagonistic.	Not argumentative.
Pilfering, stealing, or looting.	Not pilfering.
Not being faithful, trustworthy or respectful to their masters, or not reflecting their faith and Godliness in their servitude.	Showing all good faith, trustworthy.

Regardless of the horrible situation they were in, this is how Paul commanded them to be in his instruction to Titus.

Doing any of these potential or probable behaviors was not reflecting Christ. They **were** in that situation and that status. But, as believers, obeying Paul's mandate will glorify God, adorning His doctrine, being redeemed by the blood of Christ.

We noted that we are also redeemed as believers. We were slaves to a cruel slavemaster, sin itself. But we were bought with a price…*Rom 6:20-22, 1Co 6:19-20*

Notice the **command** to glorify God in our bodies… being redeemed gives us opportunities to glorify our Lord and Savior:

- One we have seen recently from Jesus Himself: *Mat 5:16*
- Abiding in Christ glorifies God the father: *Joh 15:7-8*
- Paul commands this in our day to day routines: *1Co 10:31*
- He alone is worthy, we glorify His name. *Psa 96:1-7*
- Living in our spiritual gifts glorifies God: *1Pe 4:10-11*
- And for those who have the privilege of suffering for Christ, that is glory to Him: *1Pe 4:16*

So, being in this new situation at the moment of salvation, God has given believers a **new mandate** regarding their old, earthly masters through Paul. That is through their Godly behavior and servitude, they adorn God's doctrine, and therefore glorify Him.

As for the slaves in the NT, so also for us… All this is not for nothing. *1Co 15:58*

There is purpose for it all, which ultimately leads to rewards in eternity, but also earthly blessing. *Rom 2:5-11, Gal 6:7-9, Jas 1:12*

Back to our passage
Tit 2:9-11, Phm 1:1-24

So, Paul tells Bondselves a mandate through Titus. Is this the only mention he makes about this in His epistles? *Eph 6:5-9, Gal 3:28-29, Col 3:22-25, Col 4:1*

The mandate couldn't be more clear. They, and we, have a new purpose in Christ once we believe.

So, were they to be obedient only to the earthly masters that were good and gentle? *1Pe 2:18-19*

Again, being treated unfairly or suffering unjustly under an unreasonable master (or employer) **glorifies God** and finds favor with Him. He knows what you go through. Stand firm in the fact that it's never for nothing, or without reason.

So, to summarize this passage, why all the instructions from Paul for bondslaves? Why the mandate? Why is it so important that they, (and we), "*adorn the doctrine of God our savior*"?

- It's related to our passage…
- One of the major themes of the book of Titus: Being an example!
    - [Look through the **steps** Paul lays out, the whole point of it all.]
    - Paul, A **bondslave**
    - For the **Faith** (gospel) of those Chosen of God.
    - Starts with the Knowledge of the truth (**true knowledge**)
    - Leading to maturity
    - Resulting in **Godliness** (and that's just in verse 1)
    - In the hope of eternal life
    - Showing yourself to be **an example in ALL things** 2:7
    - Then right into the mandate for bondslaves. That they can be the example!

Ok, moving on in our passage: *Tit 2:11-15*