

(1). "The Delightful Road to Slavery."

Intro:- (1). Today chosen..TOPIC. What think? "That's a stupid statement..Who ever found slavery delightful?" Did anybody here find it so? "Hey..remember ⁴⁰⁶ you are in church..We are not slaves." Sure of that? Careful how ans. Instead listen to words of our Lord Jesus..John 8:32-33, 36 In His day there was a religious company of unwitting slaves Unaware..or unwilling to acknowledge the FACT..Not free.

(2). God made men free..with free-will. Animals controlled by inbuilt impulses..instincts..powerless to resist. e.g. Oriole hangs nest delicately from fork of tree..but could not build robin's nest to save life. In fall birds fly SOUTH..and nobody taught them points of compass..Not E, W, N. Couldn't learn new directions if tried all life! BUT GOD GAVE MAN A WILL..and made him free. But still under restraint..Beneficent restraint..for his permanent GOOD..Guided by a wiser power. Many a young person has failed to und. this. Thrown off home restraints (Good ones????) And run FREE..???..and found SLAVERY..to booze..drugs..immorality..lust..DISEASE in horrible forms..And relying on shot of penicillin to fix up..NOW FINDS NEW STRAINS ABROAD..RESISTENT

Illus:- Man smoking on airplane..Package discarded said "They satisfy"..Observer saw..said to self.."I wonder how many it takes to satisfy?" It never does! What a sight for pitying eyes is the alcoholic..a slave to liquor... Illus :- Ranger..cursing.."Don't know why..just habit"..SLAVE TO HABIT..Common everywhere.

(3). Do I detect another unspoken challenge? "Not us..we are CHURCH PEOPLE!" Careful! No unwitting relig. slaves?

"How dare you stand in OUR pulpit and criticize us? WHY NOT? Did you ~~invite me~~ ^{ask} here to mouth a few sweet platitudes..pat on back with soft smile..or seek to pronounce a THUS SAITH THE LORD? I prefer to be ^{like} 401st prophet..the one whose name was Micaiah..the truth-teller facing 400 liars.. "What the Lord saith unto me, that will I speak." Espec. if you never let me back here again.

THERE ARE SLAVES HERE TODAY! How know? Bec. that statement can't miss in a crowd this size. Bec. I face slavery in lives of Y.P., even at B. Sch. Bec. I know tendencies of my own heart. ONLY ONE MAN WAS ABLE SAY TRUTHFULLY "Which of you convinceth me of sin?" - as an indisputable challenge -

Let Spirit of God look inside. You men ever entertain lustful thought? How recently? You women..ever burn with jealousy..envy? When was last bitter, angry word heard in your home? What old bitterness remains against man who gypped you..neighbour who made that snide remark..wife or husband who criticized...child who rebelled? Is there PRIDE..the cardinal

Poster
Sindley

sin in life? "God I thank thee, that I am not as other men are." Pride of face..place..race..GRACE..Worst of all..Relig.
THESE ARE THE HIDDEN SLAVE-MASTERS..not always visible like drugs, drink, immorality..A family may fight all way to church in cars..then emerge on church parking lot with pious smile.
AND ALL THIS IS NOT DELIGHTFUL SLAVERY..THE DREADFUL OPPOSITE.
If such conditions..we need be on our face before God! ^{Get down}
I. Now let's get to the Scripture I want read with you. ^{from such slavery!}

(a). As do so..I am completely confident that, by looking at a slavery situation, we can find the glorious, powerful element that can take us on the road to a delightful slavery..

Here it is:- Exod. 21:1-6. (Read)

That covers a lot of territory..a lot of life..as four people interact..Master, Slave, Wife, Children..chiefly first two.. but other two also of significant importance.

(b). Whole story down to earth..everyday affair under Heb. law. Pic. of slave market..a man buying a "servant". Heb. word used for servant means bondage..bondman..Quite diff. from "hired servant" which meant a man at wages. Not bought, hired. This "servant" is man already in bondage..already owned by a master. Per. thru. getting into debt..sold himself...Or bec. of some misdeed deprived of citizenship..freedom..put up for bids..bought
Here story of all humanity pictured. Before I even knew it..I was a slave..claimed by a cruel master, Satan..bec. I owed a debt of SIN..my life and liberty forfeit. Predic. of ev. nature man today. No marvel men get into bondage of sinful habit.. seen or unseen..drugs, immorality.. or plain bad temper...

Adam's freedom LOST..and the LOSS passed on to ev. son of Adam.
(c). Read on. Another Master appears on scene, ^{has marked} come to BUY that man who is already a servant..bondman..Come to pay the price. To REDEEM him. AND HERE IS A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE for us. Wrapped up in a ~~Xmas~~ story..Gal. 4:4-5. Out of heaven's glory came the Redeemer..come to buy the slaves of Satan..paying the full price in blood.."Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall SAVE his people from their sins." ^{you - me} He came! Praise God!
And 1947 years ago the remission price paid in sinless blood.

(d). Next part of story concerns time elements. Six years pass by before actual freedom given to the slave. What that picture for us? Six is number of MAN..and his life. History of mankind ran a good 1900 yrs before I was freed..although full price paid on hill called Calvary all that long ago. And in my own lifetime..I was not just six..but 15 yrs old before I was freed from sin-slavery. THERE ARE MEN, WOMEN WHO LIVE LIFETIMES IN SLAVERY AND NEVER GRASP TRUTH THAT FREEDOM IS PAID FOR AND AVAILABLE. God forbid that true of any here! Some find deliverance late in life..A FEW..c/f Man 96..saved 75

II. Then at last came the great change in this man's life.

(a). The 7th year began! God's Covenant number operated.
~~XXXXXXXX~~ Master kept his word..and slave went out FREE
 FOR NOTHING. No payment..no special effort..not even religion!
 A LEGAL ACT OF THE MASTER! "Go..free..no obligation to me."
 FREE FOR NOTHING! I'm glad that is in the record! Because
 Jesus paid it ALL..the sin-record of the one who puts faith in
 that Saviour is wiped clean..blotted out..as a thick cloud.
 "Gone, gone gone..yet my sins are gone." Depths of sea. ^{can't}
 FREE! Do as please! Ev. sin forgiven..Live it up..Treat ^{for ever}
 wife like a dog! Hate if I wish to..Live the self-life fully
 And then cover it all up as sedately walk into church..Sunday
 (b). Don't you agree? Why not? O read on! I love this next
 part of record. Read again..vs. 5. Here was a man who had
 something that made everlasting difference. He said two
 things.."I LOVE".."I WILL NOT"..go out free." The whole
 basis of his life in two words "I LOVE"..and that changed his
 plan of life..NOT FREE.."I don't want self-freedom"
 WHY NOT? "I LOVE". Who did he love? "MY MASTER..the One
 who bought me when I was already a servant..bought me away
 from cruel Stan Master..I LOVE HIM." Who else? "I love
 my wife, and my children." Neighbours..more than I can
 express it..here is the happy, joyful, glowing X'n life.
 Get a good doctrinal belief..BUT GET THIS ABOVE ALL..LOVE.
 X'n..DO YOU SAY IT..WILL YOU..RIGHT NOW IN DEPTHS OF HEART..
 "I LOVE MY MASTER, JESUS!.." When that is right..settled..
 spoken from surrendered heart..go home and say rest "I LOVE
MY WIFE,"..and to youngsters say it "I LOVE MY CHILDREN"..
 Let them know it..know it beyond question. Show it..Live it.
AND HIDDEN SLAVERY WILL CEASE TO BE. Notice this..the
 freed slave said it "plainly".."I love my Master". Do you?
 At home..on street..at work..school..Do those you meet..
 neighbours..know PLAINLY that you love the Lord Jesus?
 Note this also..He said it publicly..before the judges of the
 land. Plainly, publicly...c/f "I Found it."

Conclus:- Too much to say today. One other thing. HE SAID
IT PERMANENTLY..Ear bored through..to door post of his master
 The pierced ear! The opened ear! At master's door..Open
 forever to heeding of his voice! Often ring inserted bearing
 Master's name.."My ear is given to Him." Is yours? Or...??
 Of Lord Jesus..this proph..Ps. 40:6. His ear opened to God.
 ...Fellow slaves...Free from sin-bondage..let our hearts
 say it today..PLAINLY..PUBLICLY..PERMANENTLY..I LOVE MY
MASTER..and married men..I love my wife. Parents: I love
 my children...and find FREEDOM in the Lord Jesus. Rest will
 be true.."I will not go out free"..to live for self..For HIM.

Read again -

*I will "serve Him
 for ever"*

Red Deer - Bethany Bap. - Aug 12/79
 Foothills CMA - Calgary - Feb 4/79 (A large present)
 Wetaskiwin - Calgary Bap. - Nov 5/78 - B. Glass
 Okotoks Bap. - Mar 19/78
 Edmonton FBK - Feb 26/78
 Llanishannon Bap. - Aug 28/77
 Westbank (BC) Bible Fellowship, June 5/77
 Central Mennonite Breth. Ch. - Naskasen, SK - Feb 27/77
 1st Nazarene - Calgary - Jan 16/77