

Master And Servant

Colossians 3:22-4:1

Quotations from NKJV unless otherwise noted

God is Master of All Creation

- Romans 6:16
 - *“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”*

“We are unprofitable servants ...”

- Luke 17:5-10
 - In the context of forgiveness and causing others to stumble the apostles say to the Lord *“Increase our faith.”*
 - Example of faith like a mustard seed
 - Verse 10 | *“So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.’”*

“We are unprofitable servants ...”

- Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)
 - “good and faithful” servants
 - “wicked, lazy ... unprofitable ...”
- The comparison is of profitable work for the Master.
 - Luke 17, the servant did what was expected and recognized his position to the Master.
 - Matthew 25, the servant did not do what was expected of him and was unprofitable, lazy, and wicked.

Why Do We Consider Ourselves Unprofitable?

- Ephesians 2:8-10
 - Salvation from God is not given to any person as a debt God owes to them.
 - Verse 10 | *For we are His workmanship, created **in Christ Jesus for good works**, which **God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them**.*
- Ephesians 4-6 | ... *walk worthy of the calling ...*
 - 4:32 | *kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another*
 - *“...even as God **in Christ forgave** you.”*

Why Do We Consider Ourselves Unprofitable?

- Ephesians 4-6 | ... *walk worthy of the calling ...*
 - 4:32 | *kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another*
 - 5:1 | ... *be imitators of God ...*
 - 5:2 | *walk in love*
 - 5:8-9 | *walk as children of light*
 - 5:15 | *walk circumspectly* (define: wise, cautious, wary)
 - 6:10-18 | *put on:*
 - Truth, Righteousness, Preparation of the Gospel of Peace, Faith, Salvation, Word of God, Praying always
- When I do any of these does it make me profitable to God, or is this simply what is expected of me? (#564 Hymns for Worship)

“We are unprofitable servants ...”

- Luke 12:29-35
 - “Let your waist be girded and lamps burning”
 - Be prepared for the work, seeking the kingdom of God.

7

The Master We Serve

- Luke 12
 - Verse 5 | *Fear Him ...*
 - Verse 6 | He is mindful of His creation.
 - Verse 7 | He is mindful of all of us.
 - Verses 20-21 | He expects us to be considerate of Him.
 - Verse 24 | He provides for all of His creation.
 - Verses 30-32 | He allows us to call upon Him as Father.
 - Who has “good pleasure” toward us ...
- He expects our faithful service.

8

“Oh you of little faith”

- Luke 12:25-28
 - The more we recognize of who our God is and our relationship to him the more our faith will increase.

9

The Master We Serve

- Luke 12:35-38
 - Verse 37 | “... he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.”
- Matthew 20:17-20
- Matthew 20:25-28
 - John 13:3-17
 - *A servant is not greater than his master*
 - And neither are we greater than those before us, each other, or OUR MASTER.
 - Verse 17 | *If you know these things, blessed are if you do them.*
- Matthew 20:29-34

10

Conclusion

- This is the Master that we serve. The one who came to serve others. To give his life a ransom for all mankind.
- And we are but unprofitable servants who do what was our duty to perform. And walk worthy of that calling with which he called us. To walk in his light
 - kind, tenderhearted, forgiving one another – to walk in love, with wisdom, and putting on the whole armor of God to walk worthy as unprofitable servants of His.

11