

Origin of Slavery

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By ignoring God's word, mankind will never understand or accept the true origin of slavery with its painful consequences. Consequently, we bungle along making the same mistakes over and over again. Thankfully, this form of masochism will eventually end, but not until the King of kings returns to remove the source of slavery, which will be identified in the scriptural references that are contained within this study.

And he (Jesus Christ) has on his robe and his thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS (Rev. 19:16; cf. 20:1-3; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. note in parenthesis).

As will be shown, slavery and its consequences occurred shortly after the creation of Adam and Eve when they chose who was going to be their master. Before examining this account in Genesis, it is important to define the relationship between a master and a servant, or slave.

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 to death, or of obedience to righteousness? (Rom. 6:16; emphasis added)

So whoever a person obeys, that is his/her master. Or, as the singer/songwriter Bob Dylan said,

You may be an ambassador to England or France,

You may like to gamble, you might like to dance,

You might be the heavyweight champion of the world,

You may be a socialite with a long string of pearls,

But you're gonna have to serve somebody, yes

Indeed you're gonna have to serve somebody,

Well, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord,

But you're gonna have to serve somebody.

(Album: "Slow Train Coming"; Columbia Records – August 20, 1979; emphasis added).

Sadly, Adam and Eve decided to disobey their "Creator" and, instead, obey the spirit being who wanted to become their master. Had they rejected Satan's lie, "that they had an immortal soul which would enable them to do whatever they want and still live forever", they and their descendants would have the Only True God as their master (read: Jn. 17:3; 1Cor. 8:6). The truth is that everlasting life is only possible if/when an individual chooses to trust and obey the Only True God, as the following scriptures confirm.

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man (Eccl. 12:13; emphasis added).

*So he (Christ) said to him (rich young ruler), "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is One who is good (in the ultimate sense), that is, God (Almighty). But **if you want to enter into life** (everlasting), **keep the commandments** (Mt. 19:17; Ed. notes in parenthesis; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Because Adam and Eve rejected God's command to avoid absorbing the value system espoused by Satan, the latter became their "de facto father",

and this will continue to be the case for their descendants until Christ returns and "binds" Satan at a future date.

Then I (John) saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²He laid hold of the dragon, **that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years** (Rev. 20:1-2; cf. Gen. 3:1; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Since Adam and Eve's choice made them slaves of Satan and his value system, all their descendants are automatically born into a world that Satan influences and manipulates. The only reason that Satan is "god of this present evil age" is because Adam and Eve were granted the freedom to choose which "master" they would trust and obey. Because they refused to trust and obey God, very few of their descendants are led out of Satan's system at this time. This is why the majority of mankind remains deceived, including those who profess to be "Christian".

*But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴whose minds **the god of this age** (Satan) **has blinded**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image (likeness of purpose) of God (Almighty), should shine on them* (2Cor. 4:3-4; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

*Grace (forgiveness of sin; cf. Ac. 2:38) to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from **this present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father* (Gal. 1:3-4; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

*So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and **Satan, who deceives the whole world**; he was cast to*

the earth, and his angels (now demons) were cast out with him (Rev. 12:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

*For **many are called, but few are chosen*** (Mt. 22:14; emphasis added).

The reason that injustice, disasters, and other forms of suffering continue unabated is because mankind made the wrong choice, even though they were advised to avoid "the master of slavery" who will not willingly give up the control that we have given him. This is explained in a number of scriptures, including the following one that describes Satan as someone who will not release those under his control.

*Those who see you (Satan, in a future period of judgment) will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, ¹⁷Who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, **who would not release the house of his prisoners*** (Isa. 14:16-17; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

*O Lord our God, **other masters besides You have had dominion over us*** (Satan and his minions) ... (Isa. 26:13a; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

Because mankind is under the influence of Satan, Almighty God knew we would create various forms of slavery; much of which would be abusive, reflecting Satan's values. Consequently, the One True God instituted various laws that would act to mitigate what Satan was attempting to do, with the goal of improving conditions for slaves. However, mankind is still free to choose. So we are able to accept and obey these rules or reject them.

It should be noted that throughout man's history slavery has been conducted by all ethnic groups. Therefore, slavery is not something that has

been controlled solely by one ethnic group, contrary to the false narrative espoused by certain "activists" today who are possessed by their own self-righteousness in the pursuit of more money and power. The following article in the Wall Street Journal, dated September 20, 2019, confirms that black people were "selling out" their own countrymen and women,

*Records from the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database, directed by historian David Eltis at Emory University, show that the majority of captives brought to the U.S. came from Senegal, Gambia, Congo, and eastern Nigeria. Europeans oversaw this brutal traffic in human cargo, but **they had local collaborators.** "The organization of the slave trade was structured to have Europeans stay along the coast lines, **relying on African middlemen and merchants to bring the slaves to them,"** said Toyin Falola, a Nigerian professor of African studies at the University of Texas at Austin. **"The Europeans couldn't have gone into the interior to get the slaves themselves."***

(<https://www.wsj.com/articles/when-the-slave-traders-were-african-11568991595>)

One of God's laws related to the practice of slavery was instituted to teach fairness and mercy for all parties involved. It was also designed to accommodate servants/slaves who had a good master, and wanted to continue serving him/her. The people in this example are of the same ethnicity.

If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh year he shall go out free and pay nothing (for his freedom). ³If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. ⁴(However), if his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself. ⁵But if the servant plainly says, 'I love my

master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,' ⁶then his master shall bring him to the judges (for a final opinion). He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him forever (Ex. 21:2-6; Ed. notes in parentheses).

When Almighty God reveals His truth to those He chooses to reveal it to, they are still free to make a choice. And, if they willingly choose to serve Him forever, they do not have to have their ear pierced. Instead, Jesus Christ was pierced for every repentant sinner, which provided the way for them to become servants of his heavenly Father.

But he (Christ) was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastisement (correction) for our peace (with Almighty God) was upon him, and by his blows that cut in, we are healed (sins forgiven) (Isa. 53:5; cf. Ps. 22:16; Zech. 12:10; Jn. 19:34; Ed. notes in parentheses).

So instead of the blood of our ear being shed, Christ's blood was shed for us and symbolically applied to our ear as a witness of our forgiveness, following genuine repentance for the sins we have committed.

*Then you shall kill the ram, and **take some of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron...** (Ex. 29:20a; cf. Lev. 8:23-24; emphasis added).*

*Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the trespass offering, and **the priest shall put it on the tip of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed...** (Lev. 14:14a; cf. 14:25; emphasis added).*

Because Christ's blood was "symbolically applied" to our right ear, we are cleansed of our sins once we repent of them. And, just as the slave who

decided to continue serving and obeying his master; repentant sinners by their own choice place themselves under their delegated "master", who is Jesus Christ and now willingly serve him.

All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and he whom the Son wills to reveal Him (Mt. 11:27; emphasis added).

You (Christ's disciples) *call me Teacher* (SHD 1320; Master) *and Lord, and you say well* (correctly). *For so I am* (Jn. 13:13; cf. Mt. 23:8, 10; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ, and brother of James... (Jude1a; NLT; emphasis added).

As a slave of Jesus Christ, we are told our task will be light, and not heavy as it is with man's various forms of slavery.

Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden (under Satan's system of governance), *and I will give you rest.* ²⁹*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle* (the opposite of Satan) *and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.* ³⁰*For my yoke is easy and my burden is light* (Mt. 11:28-30; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Those who have repented of sin do not consider God's law and commandments burdensome, which is what Christ was referring to when he stated, "my burden is light".

*For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And **His commandments are not burdensome*** (1Jn. 5:3; emphasis added).

There appears to be significant symbolism associated with the right ear and the blood that was applied to it for the purpose of cleansing an

individual. This action prefigured that Jesus Christ would shed his blood to cleanse every repentant sinner. In the case of the unrepentant Jewish authority that was responsible for Christ's death, they refused to accept that they were in desperate need of forgiveness for their sins because they claimed their salvation was linked directly to their heritage through Abraham.

Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones (Lk. 3:8).

Because these murderers were deceived, as the majority of mankind is at this time, Christ had to point out that their current father is none other than Satan.

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it (Jn. 8:44; emphasis added).

Therefore, when one of Christ's disciples cut off the right ear of a person who served the Jewish priests, it was symbolic of the removal of this Levitical priesthood from the authority they had enjoyed and exercised, including their right to apply the blood of a sacrificial animal to the right ear of someone who was being cleansed. It also represented the fact that they had placed themselves in a position where they could not have their sins forgiven by Christ's shed blood, due to their stubborn and rebellious attitude.

*And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and **cut off his right ear*** (Lk. 22:50; cf. Jn. 18:10; emphasis added).

You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you (Ac. 7:51).

So abusive forms of slavery began as soon as Adam and Eve rejected the One True God in favor of another "god" who is described as the "god of this present evil age" (2Cor. 4:4; cf. Gal 1:4). This latter "god" is solely responsible for all forms of slavery because he influences mankind to ignore God's law and commandments; some of which deal with slavery. Even Christianity, as a whole, has marginalized and minimized the seriousness of breaking God's word, which Christ warned against.

But he answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" (Mt. 4:4; emphasis added).

*Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²²Many will say to me in that day (time of the 2nd resurrection), 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name, cast out demons in your name, and done many wonders in your name?' ²³And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; **depart from me, you who practice lawlessness!**' (Mt. 7:21-23; cf. 25:1-12; emphasis).*

So the subterfuge associated with activist movements today, who attempt to blame certain ethnic groups for the negative effects of slavery, is willfully ignorant of the fact that carnal human nature under Satan's influence is solely responsible for any and all abuses of people toward each other. It has nothing to do with one's ethnicity. Instead, it is one of many problems common to all people from all races.

*Because **the carnal mind is enmity** (hostile) **against God; for it is not subject to the***

***law of God, nor indeed can be** (Rom. 8:7; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Therefore, sin is not unique to one's ethnicity, gender, or social status. Instead, Almighty God clearly states that everyone is guilty, and He does not claim that one person's sins are more or less than another persons'.

***For all have sinned** and (as a consequence) **fall short of the glory of God** (Rom. 3:23; Ed. note in parenthesis).*

So blaming one group of people for abuses associated with slavery is exactly what Satan wants because it takes the focus and responsibility away from him. He is the real author of abusive behavior and mankind, unfortunately, is blinded to this fact at this time, with few exceptions. This is why we have "the rhetoric of blame" aimed at one ethnic group against another and, sadly, many of our government officials are complicit in this major cause of division within the countries of our world.

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