LIFE NOTES
June 11, 2023

Hope in a Hostile World—1 Peter
"Commendable Christians"

SOME PASSAGES ON SLAVERY ON THE OLD TESTAMENT

- Joseph, old into slavery (Genesis 37-50)
- People of Israel enslaved in Egypt (Exodus).
- Slave catching was a capital offense (Exodus 21:16)
- Slaves were given a range of protections and privileges: for example, slaves were included in the day of rest (Exodus 20:10).
- If their masters did them permanent bodily harm, they had to be released (Exodus 21:26)
- Any Hebrew man or woman sold into slavery had to be released after six years and given gifts—unless he or she shoes to remain (Exodus 21:2; Deuteronomy 15:12-16)
- Israelites were commanded to offer refuge to escaped slaves (Deuteronomy 23:15)
- Protections extended to those captured in warfare (Deut 21:10-14)

SOME PASSAGES ON SLAVERY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Jesus said the greatest among you will be your slave and that He came to give His life as a slave (Matthew 20:25-28).
- Jesus washes His disciples' feet like a slave (John 13:13-14).
- Apostles routinely called them addressed themselves as "a slave of Christ Jesus" (Romans 1:1; Philippians 1:1; Titus 1:1)
- The NT insists on the equality of slave and free within the church (1 Corinthians 12:13; Colossians 3:11; Galatians 3:28).
- Serve your masters as if you are serving the Lord (Colossians 3:22-4:1).
- Gain freedom if you can (1 Corinthians 7:21-24).
- Ungodly and sinful to be a slave trader (1 Timothy 1:8-11).
- Book of Philemon—Urges owner Philemon to take back runaway slave Onesimus, don't punish him, but welcome him back as a brother is Christ.

FACTS ABOUT SLAVERY

1. Slavery, unfortunately, was _____ throughout the history of mankind.

2. The bible does not _____ or _____ slavery but pushes to improve the _____of a person who is enslaved.

3. Because the young church lacked any political or social power, they encouraged slaves to win favor through their _____.

WHY SHOULD SLAVES SUBMIT

1 Peter 2:18-27 "[8] Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. [19] For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. [20] But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. [21] To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. [22] "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." [23] When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. [24] "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." [25] For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (NIV)

1. Because it is a _____

   1 Peter 2:18

2. Because it is _____

   1 Peter 2:19-20

3. Because it is _____

   1 Peter 2:21-25

COMMENDABLE CHRISTIANS

1 Peter 2:23 "When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not retaliate; when He suffered, He made no threats. Instead, **He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly**."

1. Trust God in spite of the _____.

   1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. Trust God for the _____.

   2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

3. Trust God because of _____.

   John 16:33

BOTTOM LINE

1 Peter 4:19 "So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good." (NIV)