

Titus 2:9-15 - 9 Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, 10 and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive. 11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. 15 These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you

Ephesians 6:5-9 - 5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. 6 Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. 7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. 9 And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him

Colossians 3:22-4:1- 22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. 23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25 Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism. 4 Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

Galatians 3:28

28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Making The Teaching About God More Attractive

Elders Men -Young /Old Women-Young /Old Slaves

Slaves

Subject to masters in everything

Try to please them

Not to talk back

Not to steal

Show them you can be trusted

So, you can make the teaching of God more attractive

These are the things you should teach

- By God’s grace salvation is offered to all people
- Say no to ungodliness and worldly passions
- Live self-controlled lives while we wait
- Wait for:
 - the blessed hope the coming of Jesus Christ
 - The one who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and purify for himself a people that are his very own eager to do what is good.
- These are the things you should teach
- Encourage and rebuke with authority
- Don’t let anyone despise you

Let's talk about it...

1. We all feel some kind of way when we read Paul's opening statement to slaves. One possible incorrect conclusion we could draw is - that Bible condones slavery. Many people reject God because of similar conclusions.
2. It goes like this – If God is a loving God why is slavery in the Bible? If God is a loving God why doesn't he end evil like world hunger, pain, suffering, wars, and disease?
3. Here is a possible way to help when encountering such questions.
 - a. God could have made all of us robots programmed to be perfect. If we were all perfect then our world would be perfect, because most if not all of the world's problems stem from the sinfulness of man.
 - b. Instead, he chose to give us free will, so we could have a choice and choose him.
 - c. He knew that man would sin, and mess everything up. So, he put in place a plan of redemption. He sent his son to pay for our sins.
 - d. We don't always understand why God allows somethings to happen, but we do know that God is loving and just and his ways are perfect.

Conclusion

The bible does not condone slavery, but does give instructions to those who are in slavery on how they should live now they have been saved.

Note: Paul is talking to Christian slaves. But, the lessons apply to all of us. We should all live in such a way as to make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.