

“How Can I Please God? Surrender to Him”

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – March 8, 2009

Matthew 26:38-42

38 [Jesus] said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." 39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, **may this cup be taken from me.** Yet **not as I will, but as you will.**" 40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. 41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." 42 He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, **if it is not possible** for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, **may your will be done.**"

Surrender: To **yield** to the **power, control,** or **possession** of another upon compulsion or demand

Jesus had a decision to make in the garden of Gethsemane...

Will I surrender to the Father's will? -or-
Will I follow the desires of my flesh?

Romans 6:16-23

16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, **you are slaves to the one whom you obey**-whether you are **slaves to sin,** which **leads to death,** or to **obedience,** which **leads to righteousness?** 17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. 18 You have been set free from sin and have **become slaves to righteousness.** 19 I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now **offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness.** 20 When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. 21 What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! 22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have **become slaves to God,** the benefit you reap **leads to holiness,** and the **result is eternal life.** 23 For the wages of sin is death, but **the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

1. YOU ARE ALREADY SURRENDERED

16 ... whether you are **slaves to sin,** which **leads to death,** or to **obedience,** which **leads to righteousness?**

2. YOU CHOOSE WHO YOU SERVE

16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, **you are slaves to the one whom you obey**-

3. SLAVERY TO SIN HAS A PRICE

16 ... [sin] **leads to death,**

21 What **benefit did you reap** at that time from the things you are now **ashamed of?** Those things result in **death!**

23 For the wages of sin is **death**

- **Death**
- **Shame**
- **Consequences**

Sin is its own consequence!

4. SLAVERY TO GOD HAS REWARDS

16 [slavery] to **obedience... leads to righteousness**

19 **slavery to righteousness leading to holiness.**

22 **become slaves to God,** the benefit you reap **leads to holiness,** and the **result is eternal life.**

23 **the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

- **Righteousness** (Right Standing w/God – Amplified Bible)
- **Leads to Holiness**
- **Eternal Life**

Being a slave to God, gives one the **potential/capacity** for **Holiness.**

CONCLUSION:

We are all slaves! Each of us is surrendered to some authority in our lives.

Either we are...

Slaves to Sin, which leads to **Death, Shame & Consequences**

-or-

Slaves to God, which leads to **Righteousness, Holiness & Eternal Life**

Are we a slave to **Sin** or **God?**

With each action, we are becoming **more holy** or **less holy.**

God desires for us to be a **slave to righteousness**—

So **resolutely committed** to him that we **cannot help** but do what's right.

Do we truly desire to please God?

If so, **Surrender to Him!!**

Joshua 24:15

If serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,** whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But **as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**