

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

Acts 16:30

Learn The Gospel

John 6:45; Romans 10:17;

Believe On GOD In CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

Confess CHRIST

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Repent Of Sin

Acts 3:19; 17:30

Be Baptized Into CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

Remain Steadfast

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

“The Assembling Of Ourselves Together”

Hebrews 10:24-25

Sunday

10:00 am.....Children’s Study

10:15 am.....Worship

Las Vegas Library

833 Las Vegas Boulevard North

Tuesday

7:00 pm.....Ladies’ Study

Dailey residence

Wednesday

7:00 pm.....Study & Worship

Jerry & Beverly Dockens residence

**Visitors Welcome.
Members Expected.**

“Let The Word... Dwell In You Richly”

Colossians 3:16

The current memory assignment is: *“The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth”* (Matthew 13:41-42).

Commit this passage to heart.

“Give Attention To Reading”

1st Timothy 4:13

Sunday... Proverbs 4; 2nd Kings 6:1-7:15; Acts 18:1-21

Monday... Ecclesiastes 8; 2nd Kings 7:16-9:13; Acts 18:22-19:20

Tuesday... Ecclesiastes 9; 2nd Kings 9:14-10:24; Acts 19:21-41

Wednesday... Proverbs 5; 2nd Kings 10:25-12:16; Acts 20:1-17

Thursday... Ecclesiastes 10; 2nd Kings 12:17-14:22; Acts 20:18-38

Friday... Ecclesiastes 11; 2nd Kings 14:23-16:6; Acts 21:1-16

Saturday... Proverbs 6; 2nd Kings 16:7-17:33; Acts 21:17-36

“Sound Doctrine”

Titus 2:1

THE PROCRASTINATING SERVANT

Jack Williams, adapted

14 years old: “I’ve just become a Christian; I don’t know enough and I’m still too young to be involved in the work of the church.”

16 years old: “I just got my driver’s license. I have to work to take care of my driving expenses. And of course this is the time in my life when I am very busy with friends, and you wouldn’t believe all the school activities I have! I’ll get involved a little later.”

18 years old: “I just graduated from high school! Now I need a little time for myself before I enter the ‘real world’. I’ll have more time for the work of the church later.”

20 years old: “I never knew college took so much time! When I get out and on my own I’ll have time for church work then.”

22 years old: “Boy, did you have any idea how hard it was to get started in the workplace? It takes all my energy to get my career online. And on top of that I just got married. I have to spend time to mold my new family life, too. In a couple of years I’ll be ready to really dig into the work of the church.”

24 years old: “Children! I never believed my parents when they told me how much time and money it took to raise them. I sure don’t have time for the work of the church now, but when my kids get older I’ll be able to do my share of the work then.”

36 years old: “It seems the older the kids get the more they are -- Continued on page 3 --

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PIERCE MY EAR, O LORD!

Terry Bennett

When we think of a slave or a servant, we may conjure up scenes from what we have read in books or viewed in movies or on television. We may picture a slave being beaten with a whip by a merciless taskmaster or a master living a life of luxury while his servants are living about him in squalor. We may think of the children of Israel who as slaves in Egypt were forced to begin gathering their own straw to make bricks while their daily production quota was not reduced. Even if we do not picture brutal forced labor, we still may imagine a master who demeans and ignores his slaves.

Yet when an Israelite was a servant to a fellow Israelite, the situation was not like this at all. God established laws for the treatment of their servants. Take a moment to read Deuteronomy 15:12-18. It is obvious that the attitude of a master toward his servant was not at all to be demeaning or uncaring. The master was to recognize that the servant had been worth a 'double hired servant' and had played a role in the success he had achieved. After serving the master for six years, the servant was to be offered his freedom. And at the time of his release, the servant was to be rewarded with a portion of that with which the Lord had blessed the master. In doing so, the master also recalled that the Lord had redeemed Israel from being slaves in Egypt.

In His law, God also recognized that some servants would desire to stay with their masters rather than being set free. If the servant loved the master and his house and expressed a desire to remain as his servant, the master was to thrust an awl through the servant's ear.

Pierce his ear with an awl? **Ouch!** This wasn't like girls getting their ears pierced today with a tiny needle after having been numbed. Picture being backed up with your ear against a doorpost and having an object somewhat like an ice pick thrust through your earlobe pinning you to the door. I don't even like having a doctor or nurse give me a shot. What would ever make someone voluntarily have his ear pierced with an awl?

How obvious is it that for the servant to voluntarily remain with his master, the relationship with his master must be very strong? The

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involved in! Home from work, then to school functions, then sports... I'll be glad when the kids get older so I can really be involved in the work of the church."

46 years old: "I've never had so much fun! Grandchildren! I should have had them first (Ha!). I can't deprive them; when they get older I'll be able to really be involved in the church."

56 years old: "I'm on my last push at work now. I've got to really bear down for a few years now so I can be ready for retirement. And, of course, we have our place at the lake we're fixing up. In a few years I'll be able to quit the 'rat race' and really get involved in the church."

66 years old: "Retirement at last! I've worked hard so many years and now I can enjoy the fruit of my efforts. It's time now for the young ones here at church to carry on and let us 'veterans' rest a little."

"Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come" (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

"Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall... still bear fruit in old age" (Psalm 92:13-14).

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servant must love the master and know that the master loves and will care for him. There is also a great deal of trust as to what the future holds in this relationship. As a result, the servant makes a commitment to stay with the master on a permanent basis. This commitment was evident to all – even when first meeting the servant – because they could easily see that the servant's ear had been pierced by an awl.

As servants of God today, we do not serve a merciless or brutal taskmaster. God does not demeanor ignore us. We recognize His great providence and love in our lives. We see the many blessings our Creator has bestowed upon us and how He has accepted us not only as His servants but as part of His family – as His children. And we have committed to serve Him forever.

Can others readily see the love that we have for God? Is our commitment to Him easily evident to all?

Pierce my ear, O Lord!