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# The Unprofitable Servant

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THE UNPROFITABLE SERVANTLuke 17:1-10

INT: Jesus **appeared** at times to be the harshest teacher of all!  
 Hate (love less), dead bury dead, rich hardly saved;  
 (sell all), divorce, repent or perish, etc. etc.  
 Parable in vs. 7-10 disconnected from first 6 verses?????  
 Lesson: Two points+point of parable & is it disconnected?

I. LESSON OF THE PARABLE.

## A. Component parts of the parable.

1. Servant: All Christians are servants. **M. 20:20-28.**
2. Active: Planting, cultivating or feeding. v.7.
3. Master: God or Christ. **Matt. 28:18-20.**
4. Situation: Meal time. Servant comes from field and must also prepare master's meal. Fair? Harsh! No!
5. Problem: Master owe his slave "thanks" or pay? No!

## B. WHY NOT? Fits nature of cultural life in that day.

1. Masters owned slaves totally. Used as saw fit.
2. Many slaves got selves into plight-lazy, dishonest!!
3. Ethic? Absolute monarch can order anything!!!
4. Just?? Just or not, that's the way it worked.

## C. APPLICATION TO US.

1. Jesus is **absolute authority** over our lives. **I T. 6:15**
2. We are **absolute slaves** under His Mastership.
3. No special reward due us, even after the best job we can possibly do. **Vs. 10. Why?**
4. Salvation is not a payment of a **debt**; man is not saved on his **merit**; cannot **command reward**. Due note
5. Salvation comes to the **FAITHFUL** through **God's grace, Christ's love, someone else's teaching and sinner's application for slaveship**. **M. 16:24-26.**

CONCLUSION: True Christians are not **IMPATIENT** in waiting for his eternal blessings, nor full of **SELF-PITY**.

II. ANY CONNECTION WITH THE FIRST SIX VERSES?A. Vs. 1-2. **WARNING:** Wrong for anyone to cause, teach, lead or guide another into **sin**. So often happens.

1. Offenders worthy of death by drowning.

**III.** Few spr. giants. **See. Matt. 5:3-10.**

B. Vs. 3-4. **CHALLENGE:** If offended, confront offender for reconciliation. As much as 7 times a day. **Rabbis: said 3 times a day is perfection.** Christ 2 1/3 times!!C. Vs. 5-6. **REQUEST:** Increase our faith. Above human.  
 Reply:: If had **little** genuine faith do all!III. CONNECTION AND APPLICATION TO THE 20TH CENTURY.

WH 8-18-68 1B

*greatest you'll ever have.*

- A. Christian life is a genuine challenge. Thrill. Success!
- B. Christians will be offended like other folks.
- C. Christians will respond in superior fashion. Forgive
- D. After having done **so much, so well**, human vanity likely to expect special priviledges and special attention, and special rewards. **V. 10.**
- E. None coming, because, as servants, we are doing only what was our DUTY to do.
- F. Reward comes, but not through our work, goodness, or merit. **Eph. 2:8-10. God's grace & love.**

**INV:** IF YOU ARE LOST RIGHT NOW, who is to blame?

*Rel: Bound to God. Sal: replace sin cuts strands.*

Really, only you! **Phil. 2:12. Acts 10:47-48.**

*How strong YOUR ROPE?*

If out of duty; who more to blame than you?

**James 5:16.**

Identify: After done all best can, still unprofitable. IF-SO, what the situation, NOT HAVING DONE ALL CAN?