

Pastor Cliff

1 Timothy 6:1-2

1 Timothy

Fight the Good Fight

Week 17

February 22, 2026

Doulos Rules

Introduction and Review

What Paul Really Said About Slavery (*Colossians 3:22; Galatians 3:28; 1 Timothy 1:9-10; Exodus 21:16; Mark 12:31; Matthew 7:12; 1 Timothy 6:1*)

1. _____ **an Unbelieving Master** (*1 Timothy 6:1, 3:7, 5:7; 1 Peter 2:18; Genesis 39:6-10; Titus 2:9-10; 2 Kings 5:3*)

2. _____ a Believing Master (*Galatians 5:1; 1 Timothy 6:2; 1 Corinthians 7:21; Philemon 1:16; Ephesians 6:5-8; Philippians 2:7*)

Discussion Questions (1 Timothy 6:1-2)

1. How do different translations of the Greek word *doulos* (slave, bondservant, servant) help us understand the different types of slavery in the Roman empire? How was the slavery in Paul's world different from the American and European slavery we are familiar with? (see the sermon manuscript for help with these questions)
2. How do the following verses help us understand the Bible's (and Paul's) view of slavery? (*1 Timothy 6:1-2; Colossians 3:22ff; Galatians 3:28; 1 Timothy 1:9-10; Exodus 21:16; Mark 12:31; Matthew 7:12*) Why do you think Paul did not call for slaves to revolt and escape their masters?
3. What is implied when Paul addresses bondservants as those "who are under a yoke"? What would it mean for a bondservant to "regard their masters as worthy of all honor"? (*1 Timothy 6:1a*) How might this instruction apply to modern day employees? (*1 Peter 2:18*)
4. What reason does Paul give for bondservants to honor their masters? (*1 Timothy 6:1*) What does he mean by "the name of God and the teaching"? What do you think would happen if "the name of God and the teaching" were reviled? (*1 Timothy 6:1*) How might this instruction apply to modern day employees or even to all of us in our daily lives?
5. How is Joseph a great example of one who followed the instructions of 1 Timothy 6:1 2000 years before they were given? (*Genesis 39:6-10*)
6. What problem between brothers in Christ may be implied by Paul's instruction in 1 Timothy 6:2a? Why does Paul call bondservants to "serve all the better" their believing masters? (*1 Timothy 6:2:b*) How might these instructions apply to modern day employees?
7. For those who were bondservants/slaves in Paul's day, and those in our day who have a particularly difficult boss or work situation, how do the following verses encourage and give reasons to work in a way that pleases God? (*Ephesians 6:5-8; Philippians 2:7*)