[A Servant’s Heart](http://www.my3bc.com/index.php/8991/a-servants-heart/" \o "Permanent Link to A Servant’s Heart)

Exod. 21:1-6

Acts 20

The example of a man that got saved as we now do was the eunuch (Acts 8:34-37)

Canaan would be a servant of servants –

Gen. 9:24-27 still holds today as does as covenants of the Old Testament.

1. In the Lord’s work we are called to *serve*.

2. And the greatest way to become a great servant is to develop a servant’s heart.

3. Paul, in this text, gives us a great example of his servant’s heart.

A servant who has a servant’s heart:

**I. SERVES WITH HUMILITY** (v.19)

1. He considers his *opportunity* to serve a privilege and honor (Rom. 1:1 **“a servant”**).

**ILL.** A preacher used to be a “junky.” He started out grumpy but changed.

i. You like your work. Serving God!

2. We are *honored* to serve the Lord

3. When we consider what we were before we were saved, it is truly amazing that he would even *allow us to be in his service*.

4. Because he knows that *he owes the master* (Rom. 1:14).

i. You owe it to others that have helped you.

ii. You owe it to God.

5. You’re to *give Him* your –

i. Time

ii. Talents

**II. DOES WHAT HE’S TOLD** (19-21)

1. Paul was given specific instructions from the Lord on how and whom he was to serve (Acts 9:15-16)

2. And he did just that.

His heart was single in fulfilling the task given to him.

**III. ENDURES THE HARDSHIPS** (22-23)

1. It’s rarely easy to serve others

“Endurance is as only as good as a man’s determination.”

**ILL.** Sprint of a good friend. Started out slow but caught up and won and fell after he broke the tape.

**ILL.** Joseph had to endure years of hardship as a slave and a prisoner.

2. To serve the Lord you have to balance your family, work, rest and fellowship with the Lord

3. It can be hard to keep up with all of that.

**IV. IS NOT IN IT FOR HIMSELF** (24)

You lose yourself in God’s will.

1. He’s not interested in what he can get out of service or in making a name for himself

2. It doesn’t concern him that his life is spent in service [like Paul with the Corinthians, 2 Cor 12:15,

“And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.”]

Love 1 Cor.13 **“Charity”**

“Love is the execution of conduct toward an object that is in the best interest of the object, even at the expense of the lover.”

6:5 Слуги, будьте послушны тем, которые являются вашими хозяевами согласно плоти, со страхом и трепетом, **в цельности** сердца вашего, как Христу;

Luke 6:22 **“eye be single…”**

**ILL.** Noah, He gave it all up to get it all in return.

**ILL.** Esther – risked her own life to give life to all the Jews.

**ILL.** Ruth – She gave up her past ‘heritage’ to gain the heritage of Jesus Christ.

**V. FINISHES THE JOB** (24)

1. Whatever it is he has been given to do, he doesn’t stop until he has done everything that he needs to do to finish the job

2. He leaves nothing undone.

**ILL.** Abraham’s servant was to fulfill a job (Gen. 24:3, 4).

He is supplied with all that is necessary for the trip. Application 2 Pet. 1:3, 4.

It is finished

Jn. 19:30 Поэтому, когда Иисус принял уксус, он сказал, **Завершилось**: и склонил голову, и отдал дух.

**VI. FINDS THAT THERE’S JOY IN HELPING OTHERS** (24)

1. It’s one thing to finish a job but it is altogether better to finish the job with joy

2. Notice the joy at Calvary, Heb 12:2, “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Conclusion

Paul going to Jerusalem is often characterized as disobedience – but he was never told not to go – he was told that if he went, “bonds and afflictions” would abide him – he had so developed the heart of Jesus that he was willing to endure what Jesus endured in order to do what Jesus did in attempting to see Israel saved – notice that:

Jesus humbled himself – Paul served with humility

Jesus did always those things that pleased his Father – Paul did what he was told

Jesus endured the cross and the contradiction of sinners – Paul endured hardships

Jesus laid down his life for his friends – Paul counted not his life dear to himself

Jesus said, “It is finished” – Paul said, “I have finished my course”

Jesus found the joy that was set before him – Paul finished his course with joy

You and I should develop this kind of servant’s heart!

Conclusion

Invitation

Saved

Unsaved

You can’t “serve” until you get saved.

We’re not serving for salvation. That is slavery.