

Obey Your Earthly Masters with a Sincere Heart – Part 1: Understanding Slavery in the Old Testament

Ephesians 6:5-9

Overarching Biblical Argument

Slavery is *not* part
of the created design.

All humans are created in the image of God and called to fulfill His purposes.

Gen 1:26-28

The humanity of all is the basis of just treatment of all.

Job 31:13-15

Those who engage in enslaving
other people are specifically
categorized as sinners.

1 Tim 1:8-11

Slavery in the Old Testament

The Old Testament does *not* advocate for slavery.

Descriptive *not* prescriptive

“Slavery” laws under the Mosaic Law were intended to protect the servant from poverty and abuse.

“Slavery” under the Mosaic Law
is generally to be a temporary state
of contracted indentured servitude.

Deut 15:1-18

Jer 34:12-22

The Bible in general and the Old Testament more specifically does *not* advocate for slavery.

The Mosaic Law seeks to protect those who are made vulnerable due to having to enter into servitude.

The only One who is to be Lord of
our life is Christ.
