

Slaves To What?  
Romans 6:16-18  
4-11-2010

***“Don’t you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. <sup>18</sup> You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.”***

On Easter Sunday a review of the facts concerning Jesus death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from that grave were clearly portrayed before the Church. The facts are true; the conclusion drawn from these facts also true: Life after death is available through Jesus Christ!

Jesus came in flesh to accomplish the will of The Father, His Father and ours. Was Jesus’ dying the Father’s will or was His dying the means to accomplish His will? One is the means the other is the end but both intimately connected to the purpose of God’s will. It is good for us to understand that one without the other is not possible and still be the will of the Father.

The resurrection would not have been possible without the suffering and death. God in His wisdom would have known a short cut if one was to be had. Jesus would have preferred a short cut, one that did not include all the misery if there was one to be had. Trust this fact; God is the Master Planner. Who can out smart His wisdom?

It is the tendency of our nature to look for shortcuts, even shortcuts to heaven. Paul insists on the fact of our salvation as being dependent on “obedience to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.” Read Paul’s defense of these truthful facts and see. (Romans 6:18-23)

The question then is what is this “form of teaching to which you were entrusted.”? What it is not is the weak, water down gospel of our contemporary culture. God has declared with absolute authority what sin is and no nation or people are above God to declare otherwise. If the “form of teaching” is missing God’s ingredients and substitutions have been made, cheap worldly imitations, what can be expected of the desired results? (Failure?)

God knows we are weak but He is not. He asks us to trust and believe and obey and He will carry us through. Jesus, who is our intercessor, knows how hard it is for us to do this and so He intercedes in multiple ways. (Heb.4:14-16, 5:7-9, 12:1-13)

Having read these verses from the book of Hebrews there are several things to lay hold of:

- Jesus is our help (*frapping see Acts 27:17*)
- Jesus is our source of salvation by obedience
- Jesus is our example of trust, obedience and success.

*Heb 12:12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. <sup>13</sup> “Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.*

**Remember from where our help (frapping) comes. Jesus!  
Is your soul frapped with the arms of the Master?**