

V. THE YEAR OF RELEASE OF A SERVANT (Deuteronomy 15:12-18; Exodus 21:2-6)

- A. The Releasing of the Servant (Deuteronomy 15:12-15; Exodus 21:2-4)
 - i. After the servant had served the master for six years
 - ii. In the seventh year to go free
 - iii. To not go away empty
 - 1. To be furnished
 - 2. Out of the flock (sheep, oxen, etc.)
 - 3. Out of the floor (wheat, grain, etc.)
 - 4. Out of the winepress (wine, grapes, grape juice)
 - 5. This would assure that the freed servant would have provision to reenter society as his own person.
- B. The Outline for Retaining the Servant (Deuteronomy 15:16-18; Exodus 21:5-6)
 - i. If the servant does not want to depart
 - 1. Because he loves his master
 - 2. And his master's house
 - 3. Because he has received a wife from his master
 - 4. And has had children while in the master's house
 - ii. A mark would be placed on him
 - 1. To be brought to the judges of the city
 - 2. An aul to be thrust through his ear
 - a. Against a door
 - b. Or against a door post
 - 3. To serve his master for ever
 - a. This ceremony was intended as a mark of permanent servitude
 - b. It was to impress the servant with the duty of hearing all of his master's orders.
- C. The Servitude of Jesus Christ
 - i. He came as a servant (Philippians 2:5-8)
 - 1. Made himself of no reputation
 - 2. Took upon him the form of a servant
 - a. He is the servant that is also known as the BRANCH (Zechariah 3:8)
 - b. He is the servant that was to show judgment to the Gentiles (Isaiah 42:1 [c.p. Matthew 12:18])
 - c. He came not to be ministered unto, but to minister (Matthew 20:28)
 - 3. Made in the likeness of man (Romans 8:3; Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 2:14-17)
 - 4. Humbling himself (Philippians 2:8)
 - 5. He became obedient unto death (Psalm 40:6-8; John 4:34; Hebrews 5:8-9)

6. He gave his life a ransom (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:44-45)
- ii. The opening of the ear = A body was prepared (Deuteronomy 15:17; Psalm 40:6-8; Hebrews 10:7-9)
 1. The Lord GOD hath opened the ear of Christ (Isaiah 50:5)
 - a. Notice the context of Isaiah 50 (Isaiah 50:1-7)
 - b. The Jewish people had sold themselves into the hands of their enemies (Isaiah 50:1-2)
 - i. Notice that he pointed out “creditors” in verse one.
 - ii. He notes that they had sold themselves to them.
 - c. Their only help/hope could come from God (Isaiah 50:1-4)
 - d. The Lord connects the opening of the ear of a servant to what he would perform at His passion (Isaiah 50:5-6)
 - e. He notes that God would help Him (Isaiah 50:7-8)
 2. Christ’s opening of the ear was the body that was prepared for Him
 - a. In Hebrews chapter ten a body is mentioned (Hebrews 10:5-9)
 - b. Hebrews ten cross references with Psalm forty (Psalm 40:6-8)
 - i. A body was prepared
 - ii. An ear was opened
 - c. Christ’s desire was to do the work of the Father (John 4:34; Hebrews 12:2)
 - i. Meant to do the will of Him that had sent Him
 - ii. To finish His work

VI. THE FIRSTLINGS OF THE FLOCK (Deuteronomy 15:19-23)

- A. To Be Sanctified Unto the Lord (Deuteronomy 15:19-20)
 - i. The first born male (Deuteronomy 12:6-7; Numbers 18:15)
 1. The first born of (clean) beasts to be sacrificed (Numbers 18:15, 17)
 2. The first born of man to be redeemed (Numbers 18:15)
 - ii. Of the herd or the flock
 - iii. No work to be done with them
 - iv. To be eaten before the Lord
- B. If Blemished, Not to Be Sacrificed Unto the Lord (Deuteronomy 15:21)
- C. To Be Consumed Within Their Gates (Deuteronomy 15:22)
- D. No Blood to Be Eaten (Deuteronomy 15:23)