

# GOD SAID WHAT?

Jeremy White, Lead Pastor  
Valley Church

April 27 & 30, 2023  
Week 3 – Sin and Slavery

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## Review:

- Week 1: Memes and Myths – How critics try to make the Bible look dumb
- Week 2: Context, Context, Context – The key to Interpreting the Bible

## What does the Bible say about Slavery?

- Does the Bible dismiss or endorse the practice of slavery?
- Old Testament: Exodus 21:2, 7
- New Testament: Ephesians 6:5, Titus 2:9

## What the Bible REALLY Says about Slavery...

1. Slavery is \_\_\_\_\_
2. Slavery was \_\_\_\_\_ by humans, not God
  - Exodus 21:16 mandates the death penalty for slave-traders
  - 1 Timothy 1:9-10 calls slave-trading sinful
3. God gave regulations to an \_\_\_\_\_ condition
4. The Message of the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_

## The Big Idea:

We need to understand that the Bible is being honest about the fallenness of humanity, that bond-servanthood is different than slave trading, and that God gave regulations to protect people from exploitation.

## **QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

### **Personal Life:**

1. Have you ever had a conversation with a critic or skeptic of Christianity who tried to use verses about slavery as a reason to dismiss the Bible? Please share about how you responded to those charges...

### **Ponderings:**

2. While no form of slavery was invented by God, what do you remember from the weekend message about the differences between slave-trading (which God universally condemns) and bond-servanthood (which God regulated to protect people)?
3. What do you think are the major similarities and differences between ancient bond-servanthood and modern-day employment of workers? Discuss...
4. Based on America's national sin of slavery, what is your opinion regarding the progress our nation has made on this issue, and to what extent, if any are there remaining ramifications of this dark time that are still visible today?
5. With race-relations at the forefront of ongoing conversations in our nation, what is the role of Christ's church in modeling a Biblical lifestyle of equality and unity? Discuss...

### **Promptings:**

6. In what way(s) are you personally involved in seeking, demonstrating and promoting the kind of church that God describes throughout the New Testament – a united family from every tribe, tongue and nation?

Will you ask the Father for opportunities to engage humbly and respectfully in conversations with people who distrust Christianity and/or the Bible based on the false assumption that God promotes or dismisses the serious sin of slavery?