

Paradoxes to Live by

Freedom is found in enslavement

Why should we not be surprised that Jesus and other NT authors often expressed truth in paradoxical terms?

To understand how we can be free yet a slave, we first must destroy the myth of independence, see Ps. 51:5, Jn. 8:34, II Pt. 2:19, Gal. 4:8, Eph. 2:1-2, II Tim. 2:24-26.

How did we gain freedom from enslavement to sin, Mk. 10:45, I Cor. 6:20, 7:23, Titus 2:14, I Pt. 1:18, Rev. 5:9? And who received the ransom Jesus paid? Consider Ps. 49:7,15, I Tim. 2:5,6, Heb. 2:17, 9:12-15, Rom. 3:23.

Our conversion brings about a change in masters, Rom. 6:17,22. Can one be neutral/independent (not a slave)?

Which descriptive term is most frequently associated with believers? Check out Lk. 7:10, 19:11ff, Matt. 25:45,46, Acts 4:29, Phil. 1:1, Rev. 2:20, 7:3, 22:3,6.

But, just how does our position as slaves of God fit with Jn. 15:15, Gal. 3:26, 4:7, I Cor. 6:18?

The greatest paradox of all (Phil. 2:5-8, Jn. 13:13-18) shows how to effortlessly and triumphantly live with a paradoxical mindset.

Big Q = Whose slave are you?
= Are you living paradoxically, like a free slave?