> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
> *— 1 Corinthians 12:13*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: slavery, baptism, body, Church, community, Spirit

Interpretation:
In 1 Corinthians, *the apostle Paul* teaches about the importance of *the Holy Spirit* in the lives of believers and the unity that results in the church as a result of the Spirit's work. In chapter 12, Paul teaches that although there are many different spiritual gifts, they all come from the same Spirit who unites believers into one body.

However, one of the key aspects of the Spirit's work that Paul emphasizes in this chapter is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. In verse 13, Paul states that *"For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body."* The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the promise Jesus made to His followers before His ascension to heaven: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8)*.

Baptized into one body

The image of Spirit baptism as the unification of believers into one body is central to Paul's teaching about the Spirit's work in the church. He uses the analogy of the human body to show that each member has a distinct but vital function for the well-being of the body.

Similarly, each believer has a unique role in the church, but all are equally important to the spiritual well-being of *the Body of Christ*. Paul emphasizes our *unity in Christ* and the *"diversity of spiritual gifts" (1 Corinthians 12:4)*.

Inclusion in the Kingdom of God

1 Corinthians 12:13 also emphasizes that all people, regardless of their background, status, or history, are included in *the Kingdom of God* through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Paul specifically mentions Jews and Greeks, slaves and free people, to show that there are no barriers in the Kingdom of God.

The baptism of the Spirit does not define us by our differences, but unites us as members of the Body of Christ. Regardless of our race, gender, age, or economic status, the Holy Spirit unites us into a

common spiritual unity in Christ.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves.
>
> *— 1 Peter 2:16*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: slavery, evil, freedom, life, serving

Interpretation:
The Christian life is a life of freedom. But what exactly does it mean to be free in Christ? The Apostle *Peter* gives us the answer in *1 Peter 2:16*

Freedom as a cover for evil

In this verse, Peter tells us that some may use *freedom in Christ* as an excuse to do whatever they want. After all, if we are already saved by the grace of God, why can’t we do whatever we want? But Peter warns us that this is not true freedom. True freedom sets us free from sin and the bondage of selfishness. If we use our freedom as an excuse for our actions, we fall back into the bondage of sin that Christ came to set us free from. This is not the freedom God wants for us.

Serving God as free people

Instead, Peter calls us to act as servants of God despite our freedom in Christ. This may seem contradictory, but it is actually an essential part of our freedom. If we are truly free in Christ, we are free to serve God and not ourselves. As the apostle *Paul* says in *Galatians 5:13, “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.”*

Freedom in Christ enables us to serve God with all our hearts, without worrying about our own justification or salvation. We are free to love God and to love others. Serving God does not mean seeking our own glory or honor, but rather seeking His glory and honoring Him.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ

from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.
> *— 1 Timothy 1:9-11*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: slavery, law, lying, sexuality, sin

Interpretation:
Verses *1 Timothy 1:9-11* lead us into deep reflection on the nature of the Law and who it was given for. At the time this text was written, the Law referred to *the Law of Moses*, which was the commandments God gave to Moses in the Old Testament. The writer tells us that this Law was not given for the righteous, but for those who sin and disobey.

It is interesting to note that in the Bible the word "righteous" is used of those who keep the Law, but in these verses it is used of those who do not need the Law, who already keep it by nature. The Law was not given for them, but for those who need it to find the way to righteousness. The verses also mention *the glorious gospel of the blessed God*. The Apostle *Paul* wrote this letter to *Timothy* to give him advice on how to lead the church. In this section, Paul focuses on the importance *of the Law and how the Gospel of Christ* fulfills it.

The glorious Gospel

The term *“Gospel”* is Greek for *“good news.”* In this verse, Paul speaks of the Gospel of Christ as the message that brings salvation to all mankind. This message is glorious because it is the truth that gives us hope and shows us God’s love for us. Through the Gospel, we come to know *Jesus* and can have a personal relationship with Him.

The blessed God

In these verses, God is also called the *“blessed God.”* This term means that God is the source of all happiness. The Gospel of Christ shows us that God is love and wants us to live a fulfilling and happy

life. By seeking God and following His will, we can find true happiness and satisfaction in life.

The importance of the Law

Paul also mentions the Law in these verses. Before his conversion, Paul strictly observed the Jewish Law. However, when he met *Christ*, he realized that the Law could not save him. Instead, he could only be saved through the grace of God and faith in Jesus. The Law is still important because it shows us the holiness of God and our own imperfections. However, we cannot rely on the Law as the means of our salvation. Only through faith in Jesus and His work on the cross can we be redeemed and have a relationship with God.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the Lord your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.
> *— Deuteronomy 5:15*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: slavery, sabbath

Interpretation:
In *Deuteronomy 5:15*, God reminds the Israelites of the importance of remembering their past, when they were slaves in Egypt. Remembering their past not only helped them humble themselves but also reminded them of God's goodness in freeing them from slavery.

It's easy to forget the past when we've overcome hardships. We're often so focused on future goals that we forget the history that made us who we are. But the Bible reminds us that it's important to remember our origins to appreciate what we have.

The significance of the Sabbath

God commanded the Israelites to observe the Sabbath as a day of rest to remember that He created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. This day was to be holy and dedicated to the Lord. But how can we apply this commandment in our lives today? The Sabbath is not only a day of physical rest, but also a day of spiritual rest. This is a day we dedicate to worshiping God and

remembering all He has done for us.

Reflections on God's strong and outstretched hand

God not only freed the Israelites from Egyptian slavery but also guided and protected them during their journey through the desert. God's strong and outstretched hand symbolizes His power and love for His people. In our lives, we also see God's strong and outstretched hand in all we do. He is always with us, guiding and protecting us on our journey. But are we attentive enough to notice this?

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
> — *Galatians 3:28*

Book: New Testament / Galatians
Topics: slavery, community, Jesus, understanding

Interpretation:
Galatians 3:28 is a very important verse in the Bible that speaks to us about equality *in Christ Jesus*.

Meaning of the verse

This verse speaks of equality in Christ and the removal of barriers that separate us as people. In Christ Jesus, we are all equal, whether we are Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female. In fact, many scholars interpret this verse as stating that salvation is available to all people, regardless of race, social status, or gender. We are all equal before God, and we can all access God’s grace and mercy *through faith in Jesus Christ*.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.
> — *Galatians 5:1*

Book: New Testament / Galatians
Topics: slavery, addiction, freedom, Jesus, life, Redeemer

Interpretation:
The book of Galatians was written by the apostle *Paul* to exhort believers not to abandon their faith *in Christ* and return to the old ways of the Law. In *Galatians 5:1*, Paul teaches about freedom in Christ and the importance of not returning to the bondage of sin.

Stand firm in freedom

Paul begins this verse with a call to stand firm in the freedom we have in Christ. This freedom includes not only freedom from sin and *the Law*, but also the ability to live a full and rich life in Christ. A believer in Christ has the freedom to approach God directly, without the need for intermediaries or religious rituals. However, this freedom does not mean that we can do whatever we want or live without consequences. Freedom in Christ comes with the responsibility to follow Christ and live in obedience to His commands.

Do not be bound again by the yoke of bondage

Paul warns believers not to return to the bondage of sin and the Law. In his day, some tried to persuade Gentile believers to convert to Judaism and keep *the Law of Moses*, including circumcision and the Sabbath. Paul opposed this, arguing that it would make them slaves to the Law and prevent them from enjoying the freedom they had in Christ.

Today, the yoke of slavery can take many forms. It can be an attachment to sin, an obsession with success, or a need for the approval of others. Paul urges believers not to fall back into destructive patterns of thinking and behavior that would keep them in bondage rather than allowing them to live freely.

———

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
>
> — *Isaiah 58:6*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: slavery, fasting, neighbor

Interpretation:
Fasting is mentioned in the Bible as a form of worship and seeking God. However, in many cases, fasting has been misunderstood and reduced to simply abstaining from food, without considering its true purpose. In *Isaiah 58:6*, we are reminded that fasting is not just a religious practice, but has a deeper and more meaningful purpose.

Fasting that pleases God

Isaiah 58:6 speaks of fasting that is God's choice. God is not so much concerned with abstaining from food, but with the impact fasting can have on our lives and the lives of others. God wants us to fast to free ourselves from the bonds that separate us from Him and to help those who are oppressed by the heavy yoke of unrighteousness.

Untie the bonds of evil

God wants us to use fasting as a tool to free ourselves from the sin and wickedness that darken our spiritual lives. Fasting gives us the opportunity to deeply examine our lives, evaluate our actions, thoughts, and motives, and commit to changing those things that are displeasing to God. During fasting, we devote our full attention to prayer and meditation, which allows us to know God more deeply and have a personal relationship with Him.

Free ourselves from the burden of oppression

In addition to loosening the bonds of evil, fasting can also help us to free those who are oppressed by injustice and oppression. Fasting helps us gain a clearer perspective and the courage to defend the oppressed and fight for their freedom. It can also be an opportunity to donate some of our money or time to help those in need.

Break every yoke

Finally, *Isaiah 58:6* reminds us that fasting can also help us break every yoke that separates us from God and prevents us from achieving our purpose in life. Fasting helps us overcome the temptations of

sin, addictions and other bad habits that prevent us from living life to the fullest.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.
> *— John 13:16*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: slavery, humility, serving

Interpretation:
This verse carries a powerful message of humility and reminds us that we should not act superior to others. *Jesus* teaches them at one of the last suppers with his disciples that everyone is equal before God and that authority should not affect how we treat others.

Jesus is an example of this because, as the Son of God, He humbled himself by washing his disciples' feet, an act that only the lowest servants did at that time. Jesus shows that even though he was their Lord, there was no one inferior to Him and that everyone was equal before God.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.”
> *— John 8:34*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: slavery, addiction, sin

Interpretation:
John 8:34 is a verse that reminds us of the importance of our role in God’s family and the **need to seek freedom in Christ Jesus**. In this passage, Jesus is speaking to the Hebrews and telling them

that those who commit sin are slaves to sin.

As we read this verse, we can reflect on our lives and evaluate whether we are slaves to sin or living freely through faith in Christ Jesus. *We can also consider the importance of the concept of family in the Bible and how we are called to be sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters in Christ*.

In a practical way, this verse can help us grow in faith and better understand our place in God's family. If we feel bound by sin, we can remember that **Christ offers us freedom** and seek help and guidance through prayer, Bible reading, and fellowship in faith.

In addition, this verse invites us to consider how we can apply Christ's teachings to our family relationships. While the concept of family may vary across cultures and contexts, we are all called to love and care for our loved ones, following Christ's example and working together to build a home that glorifies God.

As Christians, we can also take this verse as a reminder of our calling to be the salt and light of the world. By seeking freedom in Christ and living in harmony with others, we can be powerful witnesses to God's love and peace in a world increasingly dominated by violence and division.

In conclusion, *John 8:34* offers us valuable teaching about our identity and role in the family of God. By seeking freedom in Christ, we can find the peace and purpose we seek by cultivating healthy relationships and being powerful witnesses to God's love in the world.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.
> — *John 8:36*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: slavery, addiction, freedom, Jesus, Redeemer

Interpretation:
To understand the true meaning of *John 8:36*, we need to know its historical context. In this chapter of *John*, we see *Jesus* arguing with the *Pharisees* in the temple in Jerusalem. The Pharisees, who claimed to be descendants of *Abraham*, were unhappy with Jesus' teachings and sought to discredit Him at every turn.

Jesus and His Word

In *John 8:36, Jesus* lets them know that He knows they claim to be descendants of Abraham, but they are trying to kill Him. This is because His word has no place in them. Jesus sought to teach truth and justice through His preaching, which leads to freedom from sin. However, the Pharisees were unwilling to listen to His teachings and understand them.

The word of Jesus is powerful and transformative, but for it to truly impact our lives, we must be willing to receive it and take it into our hearts. Often, we cling to our own beliefs and refuse to listen to what *God's Word* is telling us.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free.
> *— Luke 4:18*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: slavery, Evangelism, freedom, healing, poverty, Spirit

Interpretation:
In *Luke 4:18*, *Jesus* speaks *of the Spirit of the Lord*, which is the presence of God in His life and in the lives of those who believe in Him. *The Holy Spirit* guides and directs our lives, giving us the strength to face the challenges of the world. Jesus is an example for all of us because He did God's will despite all the trials and tribulations He faced.

The fact that the Spirit of the Lord is upon Jesus is an acknowledgment that *He is the Messiah*, the chosen one of God. The anointing is a sign of authority and that He is chosen by God to carry out His plan of salvation.

The mission of Jesus

Jesus says that He was sent to bring good news to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, and to proclaim liberty to the captives. He came into the world to help people come out of darkness and into the light. His message is one of hope and love, and His mission is to bring salvation to all who receive

Him.

Jesus fulfilled His mission through His earthly ministry. He traveled everywhere, proclaiming God's message and modeling love and compassion. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and set captives free. His ministry was a manifestation of God's love for humanity and a lesson in how we should live.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave.
> — *Matthew 20:26-27*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: slavery, humility, neighbor, serving

Interpretation:
Matthew 20:26-27 is written in the context of a discussion about greatness in the kingdom of God. The disciples *James and John*, along with their mother, approached *Jesus* to ask permission to sit on His right and left sides in His glory.

Jesus responded by telling them that they did not know what they were asking for, since they could not drink from the same cup of suffering that He did, and that they must humble themselves to follow His example. Jesus then teaches them that greatness in the kingdom of God is not achieved through power or authority, but through service and humility.

What does it mean to serve others?

The Gospel of Matthew presents us with this phrase from the lips of Jesus, who is speaking to His disciples to teach them about the importance of service and humility in their lives. In these verses, Jesus teaches them that it is not about seeking glory, power, or authority, but about serving others and being available to them.

The word "slave" comes from the Latin "servus." However, in the context of this verse, it is not about forced or imposed slavery, but about a personal choice to serve others. Being a servant means putting the needs of others above your own, humbling yourself before them, and being willing to help.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in forced labor.
> — *Proverbs 12:24*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: slavery, reward, work

Interpretation:
The book of Proverbs contains wisdom for living a righteous and wise life. In *Proverbs 12:24*, the author teaches us that diligence is a virtue that will lead us to success, while laziness will lead us to failure.

What is diligence?

Diligence involves performing a task with care and constant attention. It is the ability to focus on a goal and work hard to achieve it. Diligence is a highly valued virtue in the Bible, as evidenced by other Bible passages, such as *Proverbs 10:4: "Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth."*

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.
> — *Proverbs 22:7*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: slavery, debt, money, poverty

Interpretation:
This verse speaks of the power of money and how it can affect human relationships. The rich can exercise power over the poor, becoming their masters and establishing relationships of inequality and

dependency. On the other hand, the borrower becomes the servant of the lender, meaning that the person who borrows loses their freedom and independence because they are indebted to someone else.

It is important to reflect on this verse because it helps us understand the power dynamics that can arise in our interpersonal relationships, especially when it comes to money. Not only can money affect our ability to meet our basic needs, it can also affect our emotions and self-esteem.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.
> *— Romans 6:22*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: slavery, Eternal life, freedom, Holiness, Redeemer, sin

Interpretation:
In *Romans 6:22*, we find one of the most important teachings in the Bible. Here *Paul* tells us about our freedom from sin and the way to eternal life through our service to God.

What does it mean to be freed from sin?

Freedom from sin is a fundamental concept in the Christian life. Before we accepted *Christ as Savior*, we were slaves to sin, unable to do the will of God and condemned to eternal death. But when we surrender our lives to Christ, we become new creatures and are freed from the power of sin. We are no longer slaves to sin, but servants of God.

What is sanctification?

Sanctification is the process by which we are transformed into the image of Christ. It is the process of learning to live for God and separating ourselves from sin. As servants of God, our goal is to live a life that is holy and pleasing to Him. Sanctification is not something we achieve on our own, but it is the fruit of our service to God and our commitment to live for Him.

How can we attain eternal life?

Eternal life is a gift from God to all who place their faith in Him. Eternal life is not something we can earn by our own merits, but it is a gift of love that God offers us through *His Son Jesus Christ*. Through our service to God and our obedience to His Word, we can live a life that glorifies God and leads us to eternity in His presence.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.
>
> *— Romans 6:5-6*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: slavery, addiction, Crucifixion, Resurrection, sin

Interpretation:
The book *of Romans* written by *Paul* covers the major themes of the Christian faith, such as justification by faith, law and grace, salvation, and sanctification. In *Romans 6:5-6*, an analogy is drawn between the death and resurrection of *Christ* and the Christian's experience in life.

Context

Before we delve into the verses themselves, it is important to consider the context in which they are found. In previous chapters, Paul explained that Christians are not under the law, but under the grace of God. However, this does not mean that they are free to sin, but that they are to live in holiness and obedience to God.

We are united to Him in the likeness of His death

In *verse 5*, Paul uses the metaphor of planting to talk about the Christian's union with Christ in His death and resurrection. The idea is that just as a plant is planted in the earth and is joined to the earth, so the Christian is planted in Christ and is joined to Him in His death and resurrection.

The phrase *“in the likeness of His death”* means that the Christian experiences a symbolic death by being joined to Christ. This does not mean that the Christian dies physically, but that he dies to sin.

The Christian realizes that his old man, with its sinful tendencies and desires, is crucified with Christ and no longer has power over him.

So we will be in His resurrection

But the death of the Christian is not the end of the story. Just as Christ was raised from the dead, the Christian is also raised to new life in Christ. The phrase *“in His resurrection”* means that the Christian experiences a symbolic resurrection by being joined to Christ. This implies a radical transformation in the life of the Christian, who now lives for God and not for sin.

This resurrection is not just something in the future, but a present reality. The Christian has already been spiritually resurrected and has the power to live a life of holiness and obedience to God. But there is a future dimension to this resurrection, when Christians will be physically resurrected at the coming of the Lord to be transformed and receive glorified bodies.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”
>
> *— Romans 8:15*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: slavery, children, fear, Spirit

Interpretation:
In this verse, the *apostle Paul* tells us the difference between the spirit of slavery and the spirit of adoption. It shows us that as God’s adopted children, we no longer have to live in fear. Instead, we can confidently come to God and call Him **“Abba, Father.”**

The spirit of adoption frees us from the fear and oppression that comes with the spirit of slavery. In the Old Testament, the children of Israel lived under a law that made them feel like slaves rather than children. But Jesus Christ came to free us from the law and gave us the Holy Spirit in its place. Now, as God’s adopted children, we can enjoy a freedom we’ve never experienced before.

The word **“Abba”** is Aramaic for **“father”** or **“daddy.”** It’s a personal and tender word that shows our close relationship with God. When we address God by this name, we are saying that we recognize Him as our heavenly Father who loves and cares for us. The spirit of adoption gives us confidence to cry out to our Father with all our needs and desires.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.
>
> — *Titus 2:9-10*

Book: New Testament / Titus
Topics: slavery, work

Interpretation:
One of the most controversial and debated verses in the Bible is *Titus 2:9-10*, which calls slaves to be submissive to their masters, to be pleasing in all things, and not to be talkative. What does this really mean and how can we apply it to our lives today?

First, it is important to understand the historical context in which this verse was written. At the time it was written, slavery was a common and accepted practice in society. So when this verse talks about slaves and masters, it is referring to a reality that does not exist today.

However, we can still find some important aspects in this exhortation. The fact that slaves are asked to be submissive to their masters and to be pleasing in all things makes us think about the importance of *humility and obedience* in our interpersonal relationships. For example, at work, in our community, in our friendships, and especially in our families.

In this sense, this verse can be interpreted as an invitation to be more patient, understanding, and loving in our relationships with others. After all, we are all human beings with our own problems and weaknesses. Instead of being talkative or rebellious, we can look for ways to resolve our conflicts in a peaceful and respectful way.

To summarize, although the historical context of *Titus 2:9-10* is very different from today, we can still find valuable aspects in its exhortations. *Humility, obedience, and patience* are values ??that can be useful at any time and in any interpersonal relationship. Instead of focusing on historical details, we can apply these values ??to our daily lives and improve our relationships with others.

_____

Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*