



## *How things fit together in the Kingdom*

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### **Are We Sons or Servants?**

The common understanding for Christians is that we are servants of ‘God’ because the English translations of the Bible use that term. It even calls us slaves in our Bibles. Is that who we are?

I remember a ‘seeker’ sending me an email some 5 or so years ago because he came across my website. He asked a question which caused me to reply stating that I was Jesus’ bond-slave. He emailed back that he didn’t want to be a slave of anyone, and that was the last contact he made with me. I lost access to him because I had a slavery mindset when he needed more from me, but I couldn’t give him what he needed.

I know differently now because I don’t adhere to the strict use of ‘slave’ and ‘servant’ in our English Bibles.

I thought I was accurate when I replied to the person’s emailed question, but as my relationship with the Trinity has changed since that time, I wish I’d never written what I did. My heart was pure when I sent the reply email, but I was wrong in my emphasis. I was parroting Paul’s words from our English Bibles, but it wasn’t strictly correct – I didn’t speak to him out of my relationship with the King.

At the time of writing the email, in my heart I had come out of slavery into sonship through Jack Frosts’ teaching<sup>1</sup>. That happened way back at the end of the 1990s. I absolutely knew I wasn’t in slavery to anything or any one any more, and that I’d been freed. What I hadn’t come to grips with was how I was to express myself in my relationship with each member of the Trinity. I’d already come into intimacy with them and was living out of that relationship every moment of the day. However, I still hadn’t freed myself from the religious jargon and mindset that came from my understanding of the NT statements which were written in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. That’s the time when slaves and servants were a normal part of society and the use of descriptive language about them was well understood.

I see things differently now because I see clearly what Father intends for us.

We humans were alienated from Father because of The Fall. That means we are born as a relative of ‘fallen’ Adam (we’re in his blood line), so we need to have that estrangement with Father nullified. That has been achieved by what Jesus did on the cross, so we can now have a spiritual re-birth<sup>ii</sup> (we’re spiritually reborn ). We know that what he achieved brings us into the Kingdom of God, but that’s not all. We are actually adopted (so to speak) back into Father’s family because the corruption which caused our estrangement has been eliminated. That means we are sons of God, just as Adam and Ezer were originally, before The Fall.

That’s the background we need to begin with to sort out this son/servant/slavery issue.

So the key to grasp to answer the question is this: We’re sons of the Most High God (i.e. Father). We’re also royalty because King Jesus is our ‘big brother’ and Father is the supreme sovereign (the senior ruler). That means our adoption through spiritual re-birth brings our spirit into a spiritual Kingdom where we are princes. I use ‘prince’ instead of ‘king’ because we must be trained to be a king before released into that capacity, just like a prince of a country has to be trained.

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<sup>1</sup> – Read “Spiritual Slavery to Sonship Expanded Edition: Your Destiny Awaits You” by Jack Frost  
[www.amazon.com.au/Spiritual-Slavery-Sonship-Expanded-Destiny-ebook/dp/B014OIR7TK](http://www.amazon.com.au/Spiritual-Slavery-Sonship-Expanded-Destiny-ebook/dp/B014OIR7TK)

That means that we aren't servants, we're sons. Jesus' parable of the Prodigal son makes this very, very clear. We may think we are only worthy to be servants in Father's family when we return to him out of our expulsion, but he wants us back as sons, which is our rightful place. Notice in the parable that the father immediately reinstated the rebellious, now contrite, son by placing the family's signet ring<sup>2</sup> on his finger. There was no delay on the father's part in doing that, nor was there any grumpiness about it – he did it with overwhelming joy.



So, as adopted sons we have all the rights and privileges that are available to sons. However, we need to be trained so we can operate properly in our princely sonship, but we don't go through the world's promotion system. We don't start off as a servant and work our way up the ladder to become a son once we're trusted and have proved ourselves. Adoption never requires a process to reach full status as a family member.

Everything about us is son-related once we are spiritually re-born. The only thing stopping us function as a son is ourselves. We must accept our sonship and submit to Father to be trained in that role. In the meantime, we have all the benefits of our status as a son – that's all the benefits. Remember, we're the cause of any failure to share in the benefits.

For example: Princes don't bow-&-scrape in the king's presence. They are on equal footing because they are family, even though their power and status is less. Out of honour and respect they defer to the King. Notice the British royal family in this photo:<sup>3</sup>



They're family and they operate like a family. No one is left out. No one has to crawl around showing subservience. No one has to make sure their head isn't higher than the king's head (Queen Elizabeth II in this case). Princes can walk into the king's presence and stand to talk. They can sit on the king's chair, if protocol permits it, without having their head chopped off. Princes can have an audience with the king any time he's free. They don't have to wait in line behind the nobility or citizens, and they stand instead of bowing or prostrating in the king's presence.

Get the picture?

2 – PHOTO: "A\_signet\_ring\_with\_a\_Zechariah\_Seal"

By Zegomo - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, [commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=44492358](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=44492358)

3 – PHOTO: "Royal family on the balcony of Buckingham Palace after Trooping the Colour, June 2012"

By Carfax2 - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, [commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19995267](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=19995267)

But aren't believers called servants or slaves in the NT?

True. Here's what we find there:

- Phoebe was “a servant of the church in Cenchrea”<sup>iii</sup>. Tychicus was described as a “fellow servant in the Lord”<sup>iv</sup>. We are to consider ourselves to be “servants of Christ”<sup>v</sup>. Although “free from all men”, Paul wrote that he had made himself “a servant to all”<sup>vi</sup>.
- Paul urged that we become “slaves of righteousness”<sup>vii</sup>. He also stated that we have become “slaves of God”<sup>viii</sup>.
- Paul describes himself on numerous occasions<sup>ix</sup> as a bondservant (AKA bond-slave) of Jesus Christ, as he did of Epaphras<sup>x</sup>. James also described himself as a bondservant “of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”<sup>xi</sup>, as did Peter<sup>xii</sup>. Paul wrote that he considered himself and his team as bondservants of the Corinthian *ekklesia* for “Jesus’ sake”<sup>xiii</sup>. He also wrote that we should operate as bondservants of Christ.<sup>xiv</sup> Peter wrote a similar statement.<sup>xv</sup>

To get our head around the question we need to look at the Greek NT. There is interchangeability in there between ‘slave’, ‘servant’, and ‘bondservant’. The terms are translated from:

1. *Doulos* (δοῦλος) noun – Meaning: ‘a slave’, ‘a bondman’, ‘a man of servile condition’, ‘a servant’, ‘an attendant’. Metaphorically, ‘one who gives himself up to another's will’, ‘devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests’. Servitude could have been involuntarily or voluntarily.<sup>4</sup>
2. *Douloō* (δουλόω) verb – Meaning: ‘to enslave’, ‘to make a slave of’, ‘reduce to bondage’, ‘become (make) a servant’. Metaphorically, ‘to give oneself wholly to one's needs and service’, ‘to make oneself a bondman to him’.<sup>5</sup>
3. *Diakonos* (διάκονος) noun – Meaning: ‘one who executes the commands of another’ especially of a master, ‘a servant’, ‘an attendant’, ‘a server’, ‘a waiter’, ‘the servant of a king’.<sup>6</sup>

Here's our problem: Because of the many meanings of *doulos*, we are at the mercy of the translators as to whether they use ‘slave’, ‘servant’, ‘bondservant’, etc., and this affects how we think of ourselves. However, we need to move further on from this issue so we don't get stuck in the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

Jesus said to his disciples, “No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.”<sup>xvi</sup> He was talking to his loving, intimate followers who were in relationship with him like we are today – except that we're in the New Covenant (NC).

From what Jesus said, we can see that sons have intimacy with Father and he shares his knowledge and wisdom with them. This is what Jesus of Nazareth exemplified for us. He was the first Spirit-filled human being and is therefore our prototype who we model ourselves after.

Paul goes even further because he speaks under the NC and writes that we are “no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ”<sup>xvii</sup>. King Jesus, the man, is heir to all Father has, and as sons we are also heirs to everything as well.

To get the full weight of how wonderful that is, we need to consider our birthright, something that's not spoken about in the church system. You see, we humans were created to be in charge of the planet and to manage it. We were given the role of planet managers to rule over the natural realm under Father's oversight.<sup>xviii</sup> That's our birthright. Even more than that, we're glorious beings, made in the image of God,<sup>xix</sup> and who are a little lower in status to the *elohim* (God or sons of God, not the angels).<sup>xx</sup>

4 – Strong's #1401 [www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1401/doulos.htm](http://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1401/doulos.htm)

5 – Strong's #1402 [www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1402/douloo.htm](http://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1402/douloo.htm)

6 – Strong's #1249 [www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1249/diakonos.htm](http://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G1249/diakonos.htm)

Our spiritual rebirth<sup>xxi</sup> cancels the effects of The Fall, which alienated us from Father, and we can now regain our birthright automatically.

That means we are both sons and servants according to scripture. How is this conceivable?

## **We serve as sons, we aren't servants in the sense of menial attendants or lowly workers.**

We serve others, we serve each other, we serve the Trinity, and we function as servants in the Kingdom. All these are done because we don't focus on ourselves, but on others.

We serve, even if it's menial or degrading according to society's opinions. In all types of service we remain royalty in our heart and mind, because that's our genuine identity. Nothing changes our true identity – not even anything that's done to us or against us.

Being princes, we are junior servant-kings, just like Jesus the man was on Earth. He said he came to serve (i.e. to be a servant),<sup>xxii</sup> which Paul attests to.<sup>xxiii</sup> Here's an interesting take on servant-kings:

*“Servant-King, is the birthright of every man from the moment of his first breath until his natural death. Birthright is a term not much used in our vocabulary today. Most people would equate it with some royal lineage or maybe their right to citizenship. It is our birthright that holds our inheritance which in turn holds all of our power, property, rights and duties; and is our single most valuable possession. Unfortunately and unwittingly, we have all been deceived into abandoning our birthright in order to assume a graven identity.*

*We have all abandoned our real birthright for an abstract birthright that required no labour.”<sup>7</sup>*

## **Our identity is our sonship. Our function is to serve, as we rule through our birthright as sons.**

*“Your difficulties have shaped you, but they will not define you. By creation and by redemption, you are mine! I have set my seal over your heart, and now I display you to the world as my very own masterpiece of love. I have placed my glory over your life and called you my radiant one! ...When you speak out of your identity in me, the surging power of my Spirit will lift you high. Find your pleasure in me, your true identity. The more you delight in me, the freer I am to unleash my glory in your situation. Others will find your flaws, but I have found your virtue. You trusted me when you had nothing and no one to support you. Never doubt the burning love that I have placed within your soul. In that flame, you will find me, and you will hear my voice whisper to you. Beloved, I am your true identity.”<sup>8</sup>*

[REFERENCE & RESOURCES are on the next 2 pages]

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([www.CanberraForerunners.org](http://www.CanberraForerunners.org))

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document but not referenced)

7 – [www.servantking.info](http://www.servantking.info)

8 – Brian Simmons (11-3-2021) “I Hear His Whisper...“I hold your true identity.”” [distributed e-newsletter]

[mailchi.mp/broadstreetpublishing/00000-618166?e=3ca23beeed](mailto:mailchi.mp/broadstreetpublishing/00000-618166?e=3ca23beeed) OR  
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## Jack Frost's Teaching

- “From Slavery to Sonship” [LINK](#) [MP3 - purchase required]
- “Spiritual Slavery to Sonship” [LINK](#) [ebook - purchase required]
- “Spiritual Slavery to Sonship” [LINK](#) [audio of ebook – **FREE**]
- “Experiencing Father's Embrace: 9 Part” [LINK](#) [MP3 - purchase required]
- “Experiencing Father's Embrace” [LINK](#) [ebook - purchase required]
- “Experiencing the Father's Embrace: Session 1 - Pt 1” [LINK](#) [video – **FREE**]
- “Experiencing the Father's Embrace: Session 1 - Pt 2” [LINK](#) [video – **FREE**]
- “Experiencing the Father's Embrace: Session 2 - Pt 1” [LINK](#) [video – **FREE**]
- “Experiencing the Father's Embrace: Session 2 - Pt 2” [LINK](#) [video – **FREE**]
- “Restoring The Father's Love” [LINK](#) [MP3 - purchase required]
- “You Were Created For Love” [LINK](#) [MP3 - purchase required]

## i      **REFERENCES**

- ii – John 3:8
- iii – Romans 16:1
- iv – Colossians 4:7
- v – 1 Corinthians 4:1
- vi – 1 Corinthians 9:19
- vii – Romans 6:18-19
- viii – Romans 6:22
- ix – Romans 1:1; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Galatians 1:10; Philippians 1:1; Titus 1:1
- x – Colossians 4:12
- xi – James 1:1
- xii – 2 Peter 1:1
- xiii – 2 Corinthians 4:5
- xiv – Ephesians 6:6
- xv – 1 Peter 2:16
- xvi – John 15:15
- xvii – Galatians 4:7
- xviii – Genesis 1:22-28
- xix – Genesis 1:27
- xx – Psalm 8:4-5 (AMP, AMPC, OJB, TPT)
- xxi – John 3:8
- xxii – Matthew 20:28
- xxiii – Philippians 2:7