

1. Earlier I taught in part 1Ti 6:1 where we reviewed slavery in antiquity and slavery in the New Testament and the importance of believers submitting to divinely vested authority. We are now ready to continue our word study of the Greek noun δεσποτης translated in the KJV “masters.”

2. Before beginning that study I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.

3. So far we have exegeted that portion of the verse which in the KJV has been translated “Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own ...” noting it might better be rendered “**All who are slaves are under a yoke of bondage thus each must count his very own ...**”

4. The entire verse has been translated in the KJV:

1Ti 6:1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed.

5. Now let’s return to the word study of “**Despotes**” translated “masters.”

## MASTERS ΔΕΣΠΟΤΗΣ

1. **Despotes** is well translated “masters ...”

2. The noun **Despotes** is declined as an accusative plural.

3. **Despotes** can be found ten times in the New Testament where it is variously translated Lord, master, master’s, a lord, O Lord” or “Christ.” **Despotes** denotes supreme authority, a lord over others and often it is used of God Himself. Interestingly we get our word despot from this Greek noun.

Luk 2:25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

Luk 2:26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Luk 2:27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

Luk 2:28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

Luk 2:29 **Lord**, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

Luk 2:30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation ...

Acts 4:22 For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

Acts 4:23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.

Acts 4:24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "**Sovereign Lord**," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.

Acts 4:25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

Rev 6:10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, **O Lord**, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

Rev 6:11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

2Pe 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privately shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the **Lord** that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

4. Now for the phrase "worthy of all honor."

WORTHY OF ALL HONOR, **πας τιμη αξιος**

1. **Pas Time Axios** is better translated "worthy of all honor and respect ..."

2. **Pas** is an adjective declined as a genitive singular followed by the noun **Time** declined as a genitive singular and the noun/adjective **Axios** declined as an accusative plural and used as a substantive.

3. **Pas** is used often in Scripture to describe all or everything. Several examples will illustrate:

Eph 4:13 Till we **all** come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Eph 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with **every** wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in 'all things, which is the head, even Christ:

Eph 4:16 From whom the **whole** body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Col 3:23 And **whatsoever** ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

Col 3:24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

1Th 5:5 Ye are **all** the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

1Th 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

1TI 2:8 I will therefore that men pray **every** where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

THAT THE NAME OF GOD  $\iota\nu\alpha \mu\eta \omicron \omicron\nu\omicron\mu\alpha \omicron \Theta\epsilon\omicron\sigma$

1. **Hina Me Ho Onoma Ho Theos** is better translated “lest the name and reputation of God ...”

2. **Hina Me** combined is a conjunction followed by the monadic noun **Onoma** declined as a nominative singular and the monadic proper noun **Theos** declined as a nominative singular.

3. **Hina** is a causal conjunction and **Me** is the softest of the negative adverbs. The combination of the two results in a translation of lest.

4. **Onoma** appears more than 200 times in the Scripture where it is translated “name, named” or “names.” Examples:

1Co 1:14 I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;

1Co 1:15 Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own **name**.

1Co 1:16 And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.

1Co 1:17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other **name** under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

Acts 4:15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

Acts 4:16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

Acts 4:17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this **name**.

AND HIS DOCTRINE  $\kappa\alpha\iota \omicron \delta\iota\delta\alpha\sigma\kappa\alpha\lambda\iota\alpha$

1. **Kia Ho Didaskalia** is better translated “His teachings ...” or “and His Doctrine ...”
2. Kai is a conjunction used as a simple connective followed by the monadic noun **Didaskalia** declined as a nominative singular.
3. **Didaskalia** is used here of Bible Doctrine—the Mind of Christ.
4. Clearly the importance of Doctrine is emphasized here. Let’s review our categorical study of *The Importance of Doctrine*.

### **The Importance of Doctrine**

1. Definition: As used in this categorical study, doctrine is the content of Scripture exegeted and taught categorically by a pastor-teacher in a local church.
  - 1.1 Col. R. B. Thieme developed an acrostic to communicate the way doctrine should be taught in the local church: ICE, for Isagogics, Categories and Exegesis. I have amplified it somewhat.

#### **ICED**

**I** The I stands for Introduction, meaning those facts which introduce historical nuances and background information about the book, the author and the historical setting.

**C** The C stands for Categories meaning that study of a subject found throughout the Bible as opposed to an eclectic approach.

**E** The E stands for Exegesis, meaning a critical analysis of the Bible performed from a study of the original language using the best manuscripts available.

**D** The D stands for Dispensation, meaning that analysis of the biblical passage or passages given the epoch to which the Scripture relates.

2. In 2Ti 3:16-17 we find that doctrine is stressed as the means for performing the Christian life.

2Ti 3:16 All scripture is God breathed and is profitable for doctrine for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

2Ti 3:17 In order that the man of God might be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2.1 Scripture, however, must be interpreted based on a complete and thorough exegesis.

3. 2Pe 1:2-8 summarizes the process for acquiring doctrine. In an earlier study of Peter’s second epistle, I exegeted and analyzed verses two through eight. Rather than an extensive review, I want to simply present an expanded translation.

### Expanded Translation

**2Pe 1:2** God's wonderful plan for your life and the peace and stability that comes from that plan, I want it for each of you; however, you must realize it can only come from Bible doctrine metabolized in your soul, where the full knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ becomes more real than reality.

**2Pe 1:3** For you see, God's divine power has provided everything that pertains to your life in time. Your spiritual life is a product of the doctrine you have in your soul. God called you for the solitary purpose of glorifying Him.

**2Pe 1:4** To facilitate our progress in the Christian life, God has provided in Scripture many great and precious promises; by the inculcation of these marvelous promises, you might become partakers of a divine nature, having escaped the control and domination of your old sin nature.

**2Pe 1:5** And because of God's grace, there are several protocols which must be added to your faith in Christ; for example, to your faith you must add the consistent intake of the Word of God and to this virtue you have to keep on adding more doctrine. The transforming of the mind is a never-ending task.

**2Pe 1:6** And to your newly acquired doctrine you must add self-control, organized thinking and patience as you continue metabolizing the Word of God, even when it is inconvenient, consistently making application of that which you have learned.

**2Pe 1:7** And to that application you must learn to appreciate your very own spiritual life, even while living right smack in the middle of the devil's world. And to this appreciation you must acquire a thorough understanding of God's protocols, some of which are very difficult and illogical. For example, you are to pray for your enemies; you are to do good to those who abuse you; you are to give thanks in all things and you are to pray regularly. You are to use your freedom in Christ as a liberty, not a license.

**2Pe 1:8** Now if the protocols listed in verses two through seven are resident in your soul, you will not be devoid of divine good; for these precious promises will make you a living testimony of Him who called you, as His ambassador for time.

4. Now let's study 2Pe 1:9 where the plight of the negative believer is set forth. In verse nine, we find a description of the poor Christian who has not added to his faith the cast of characters demanded in the first eight verses of 2nd Peter chapter two.

2Pe 1:9 but he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

4.1 This verse suffers from a translation problem.

4.1.1 "But" is actually a poor translation of **Gar**. **Gar** is better translated "for you see by way of additional explanation" or "let me explain further."

4.1.2 The phrase "he that lacketh these things" is better translated "to whom these things are not present." Instead of speaking of the "assembled characters" belonging to the Christian, the verse indicates they may be present, but not his or her settled possession.

4.1.3 Because many believers have not followed the protocol plan of God, they wake up in a new world each morning, unaware of their very own spiritual life and oblivious to the fact they have a destiny. These negative believers are everywhere today. Our churches are full of them, and, perhaps worse, there are many born-again people who have rejected the church altogether.

4.1.4 The protocol plan of God is perhaps best summarized in our Edification Complex of The Soul chart.

### **Edification Complex of the Soul Chart**

Occupation With Christ

Plus Happiness

Impersonal Love

Love of God

Sense of Destiny

Doctrinal Orientation

Grace Orientation

Faith Rest

Filling of the Spirit

Rebound

4.1.5 The phrase "cannot see afar off" is a translation of **Muopazo**, a word used by Aristotle of a near-sighted man. It was also used by Ecclesiasticus of a man who has seen the light, but blinking he turns away from the light.

4.1.6 Here the word **Muopazo** modifies the word **Tuflos**, translated "blind." The word blind is better "he screws up his eyes because of the light, seeing only things present and not the heavenly things."

4.1.7 Negative people can't see spiritual things because doctrine is spiritually discerned.

4.1.8 Vincent has written of the blind soul "he cannot see the things of heaven, though he may be quick enough in regard to worldly matters."

4.1.9 "Hath forgotten" in the Greek text is literally "having taken forgetfulness." The phrase comes from **Lambano Lethe**, which is better translated "having seized a state of forgetfulness, a state of oblivion."

4.1.10 "Purged" is **Katharizo** and means "to be cleansed." This is an apt description of the saint who will not use the two power options.

4.1.11 Continued refusal to take in the Word may result in a believer forgetting he was ever saved.

4.1.12 This Christian is not stone-blind but simply lacks even the basics--a sad situation indeed.

5. Now let's leave Second Peter and develop further our subject, *The Importance of Doctrine*.

6. It is impossible to please God if you do not believe that He is your Savior and that He blesses the believer who uses the two power options.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7. Without doctrine you will find your prayers to be an abomination to God.

Pro 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayers shall be an abomination.

8. Pro 12:1a tells us the man who loves spiritual growth will love knowledge.

Pro 12:1 Whoever loveth instruction loveth knowledge: and he that hateth reproof is brutish.

8.1 Notice Pro 12:1b tells us not to despise discipline; we should accept it and move forward. The man who rebels against the discipline of God is brutish--animal-like.

8.2 Compare this verse to Heb 4:12. The anonymous writer of Hebrews declares the power of Scripture, how it cuts to the essence of our soul and human spirit discerning our true thoughts and intents.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

9. Doctrine was always with God, even from eternity past; before anything was, there was doctrine. Pro 8:22 and 23 also declare the importance God places on doctrine.

Pro 8:22-23 The Lord possessed wisdom in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. Wisdom was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, before the earth was.

10. God has magnified His Word, even above His name and reputation. A clear demonstration of the importance of His Word is found in Psa 138:2.

"I will worship toward the Holy Temple and praise thy Name for thy loving Kindness and for thy Truth: for thou hast magnified thy Word above all thy Name."

11. The attitude of a believer toward Bible doctrine determines whether he or she receives blessing or discipline in time. Let me give you an expanded translation.

Pro 8:33-36 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the post of my doors. For whoever findeth doctrine, findeth life and shall obtain favor of the Lord. But he that sinneth against doctrine wrongeth his own soul: and all they that hate me love operational death in time.

12. Jos 1:8 says daily study of the Word of God will make the believer a unique success.

Jos 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make thy way prosperous, and then you shall have a good success.

13. Doctrine, therefore, is the basis for blessing in time.

Psa 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: for I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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