

*Is Ephesians 6:5 about slavery? Does it still apply today?*

God does not endorse slavery (Ex 21:16). It is contrary to his doctrine (1 Ti 1:10).

The apostle Paul discussed Christians submitting to one another in Ephesians chapter five verse twenty one, saying: "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."

Chapter six verse five is referring to an employer/employee relationship. Christian workers should serve their employers as they would serve Christ (Eph 6:5–8) and Christian employers must treat their workers as they would treat Christ (v. 9). Each will give an account to God (Ro 14:12).

Husbands and wives mutually submit to one another (Eph 5:22-33) as the church submits to Christ (vv. 22–24).

Children should honor and obey their parents (Eph 6:1–3) and parents should discipline and instruct their children in the ways of the Lord (v. 4).

Believers are to humble themselves before: rulers (1 Pe 2:13), elders (1 Pe 5:5) and Christian leaders (He 13:17)<sup>1</sup>.

The benefits of service to God (Ro 12:11) and others<sup>2</sup> include: divine honor (Jn 12:26), acceptance before God (Ro 14:18), an inheritance (Col 3:24) and eternal blessedness (Re 7:15; Re 22:3).

God's people (Ro 7:6) walk uprightly (Ps 101:6) serving him and one another (Mk 12:31).

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 596). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

<sup>2</sup> In fear (Ps. 2:11), absolute loyalty (Matt. 6:24), humility (Acts 20:19) and love (Gal. 5:13). Ibid, pp. 558–559.