

## **LA6. Using Enslavement to Serve God, but Acquiring Freedom if Possible.**

*We are to serve God whether we are slave or free, but acquire freedom from slavery if possible.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

### **Key New Testament Scriptures**

1 Corinthians 7:21-22

*Were you a slave when you were called? Well, don't let it bother you; although if you can gain your freedom, take advantage of the opportunity. For a person who was a slave when he was called is the Lord's freedman; likewise, someone who was a free man when he was called is a slave of the Messiah.*

### **Additional New Testament Scriptures**

None

### **Related New Testament Mitzvot**

LA03 Servants Submitting to, Obeying, Respecting, & Serving Their Masters

### **Supportive Tanakh Scriptures**

Exodus 23:25

*You are to serve ADONAI your God; and he will bless your food and water. I will take sickness away from among you.*

Deuteronomy 6:13

*You are to fear ADONAI your God, serve him and swear by his name.*

Deuteronomy 10:20

*You are to fear ADONAI your God, serve him, cling to him and swear by his name.*

Deuteronomy 13:5(4)

*You are to follow ADONAI your God, fear him, obey his mitzvot, listen to what he says, serve to him;*

### **Comment**

This *Mitzvah* is one of several in this compilation that refer to slaves (“bondservants” in the NKJV) of the kind that we no longer have in the “civilized” world of today. It is nevertheless included here for completeness, adaptation to ordinary servanthood, and metaphorically for our obligation to serve God.

1 Corinthians 7:21-22 refers to physical slavery but can be applied to any situation wherein we are controlled by a person or a circumstance. We are to be content that we belong to the Lord whether we are slave or free, and are to serve Him in whatever our condition. That notwithstanding, we are to make use of whatever opportunities that arise to acquire our freedom.

**Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2**

G08 Serving, Worshiping, Praising, & Praying to God

G13 Dedicating Ourselves to God