

Background on “slavery” in the New Testament ...

The way we relate to those in authority reflects the kingdom we serve ... verses 1-2

- a new mindset for relating to those in authority, v. 1a
“consider their masters worthy of full respect”

- a new motivation for the way we relate to others, v. 1b
“so that God’s name and our teaching may not be slandered”

- a new manner of relating to believers who are in authority, v. 2
“not to show less respect ... instead, they are to serve them even better”

Questions for Reflection ...

Where does your mind go when it is not occupied?

What are the desires of your heart?

What drives the way you make decisions?

Quotes:

“How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’” Isaiah 52:7

David said to Goliath, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.” 1 Sa 17:45