

Sermon Notes
October 13, 2024
Philemon Series
**“Slavery Part 1: God Enduring
Human Sinfulness”**

The letter to **Philemon** brings up the question of, “if **God** is **good**, then why didn’t he command **slavery** be **abolished**?”

Section 1:

The Hebrew word, **ebed**, is an encompassing word that includes both **free** and **non-free** people.

The Greek word, **doulos**, is a person who has **no ownership rights** over themselves.

Section 2:

Slavery is a **curse** that comes about from **sin** and not a part of God’s **original design**.

Scripture Reference: **Genesis** 9:25

The Bible is **pro-freedom**, not **bondage**.

Scripture Reference: **Exodus** 13:3

Scripture Reference: **Exodus** 20:2

Section 3:

In a **sinful** world where **society** needs a way to handle issues such as **debt**, God **works** to **elevate** those who fall into **slavery**.

Scripture Reference: **Exodus** 20:10

Section 4:

God gives **principles** and works **within** the human **ability** to put them into **practice**.

Through the **cross**, we are given God’s principle of **forgiving debt** by which we are to **actively** do.

Scripture Reference: **Colossians** 2:9-14

Challenge:

Who’s debt are you holding on to that needs to be forgiven?

Go before God this week to forgive that debt.