

Servanthood 4238

I. Servanthood: An Expression Of Submissiveness

- A. A spiritual attitude, not a set of rules
Submissiveness is not necessarily submission
- B. Eternal in the Godhead (Gen. 1:1)
 - 1. The Son
 - a. Perfect submission—never initiated anything (John 5:19, 30; 8:28–29; 15:10)
 - b. Eternal submission (1 Cor. 15:28)
 - 2. The Holy Spirit
 - a. Submitted to Father and Son (John 15:26; 16:13–14)
 - b. Holy Spirit never initiates or seeks glory for Himself
- C. Manifested on earth
 - 1. The Son—greatness through serving (Matt. 20:25–28 [compare John 13:12–17; 21:9–13])
 - 2. The Holy Spirit—self-portrait in Gen. 24: the servant
- D. Pattern of Paul
 - 1. First a slave, then an apostle (Rom. 1:1)
 - a. Apostles: the bottom layer (Rev. 21:14)
 - b. Job description of apostle (1 Cor. 4:8–13, NIV)
 - 2. First the Word, second the Church (Col. 1:23–25)
Moses vs. Aaron
 - 3. Attitude in ministry
 - a. Slaves for Jesus' sake (2 Cor. 4:5)
 - b. *Live what you teach* (Phil. 4:9)
- E. General aspects of servanthood
 - 1. *All* are servants (Gal. 5:13 [compare 1 Pet. 5:5–6; Eph. 5:21])
 - 2. Humility is a decision (Luke 14:7–11)
- F. The *dove* and the *lamb* (John 1:29–34)
 - 1. Dove looks for a certain nature upon which to settle
 - 2. Nature of lamb:
 - a. Purity
 - b. Meekness
 - c. Life laid down

Application: Ask God for a fresh vision of the Lamb of God and to conform you to that nature.