



## Today's Message

Date: October 24, 2021  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: *Unprofitable Servants*

Text: Luke 17:7–10 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup> “Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? <sup>8</sup> Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup> Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’ ”

Introduction: Luke 17:1-10 contains a series of Jesus’ instructions directed to his disciples. The instructions intentionally contrast those who follow Jesus against the attitudes and actions of his opponents, the Pharisees. They believed that they deserved God’s favor because of their Jewish heritage and Law-keeping. The parable in today’s sermon text reveals that nothing could be further from the truth.

### **I. Jesus taught his disciples with a parable about a servant’s relationship to his master. 7-9**

A. A lesson in three questions:

1. Question 1: Does the master serve the servant? No! 7

2. Question 2: Does the servant serve the master? Of course! 8
  3. Question 3: Does the master owe the servant anything? Never! 9
- B. The conclusion: Obedience is the servant's duty; God gains nothing from it. 10

**II. Today's take-home truth: A person's good works can never place God under obligation for anything.**

**III. Implications:**

- A. "Works-salvation" is an abomination because it is an attempt to "de-God" God.
- B. God owes us nothing; we owe God everything—and that will never change.
- C. Anything we receive from God is strictly a matter of grace.
- D. God's reward for our service is a mystery of grace upon grace.
- E. The more we contemplate God's grace, the more joy we find in doing our duty.