

Slaves

Titus 2 AMP

³ **Older women** similarly are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor addicted to much wine, teaching what is right and good, ⁴ so that they may encourage the **young women** to tenderly love their husbands and their children, ⁵ to be sensible, pure, makers of a home [where God is honored], good-natured, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

⁹ Urge **bond-servants** to be subject to their own **masters** in everything, to be pleasing and not talk back, ¹⁰ not stealing [things, regardless of value], but proving themselves trustworthy, so that in every respect they will adorn and do credit to the teaching of God our Savior.

NASB 2:9 *Urge* bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not ^[e]argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.

Titus 2:9 Mounce Reverse-Interlinear New Testament (MOUNCE)

⁹ Urge slaves to be subject to their own masters in all things, to
hypotassō idios despotēs en pas
be pleasing, not talking back,
eimi euarestos mē antilegō

Obviously the phrase “urge slaves to be” is supplied by the translators because of the presence of the words “masters” which follow in the Greek. Some translations use the word “bond servant” (Greek doulos) because Paul refers to himself as a bond-servant of Christ. An Old Testament bond servant was usually a self-indentured **slave** who was sold to another in order to get out of debt. After 7 years he or she could then leave or decide to remain with the master for life. This was a choice, but it was not reversible.

Exodus 21:5-6.

⁵ And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free: *(If he married as a bond servant and had children, they could not go with him if he left.)*

⁶ Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him forever.

Nevertheless, for the sake of the present argument, if Christians are to treat women in the Old Testament fashion even though we are not under the Old Covenant then we might as well bring back slavery in all forms. This consideration is in addition to the arguments already set down previously.