

Episode: Servant of God Series No. 1

Narrator: An angel of the last plagues

Primary Scriptures: Revelation 22:1-11

Story Summary: The importance of being a servant of God

Location: New Jerusalem

Time: Circa 30-90 AD

Suggested Memory Scriptures: Revelation 22:3, 6

Do you want to know who will be with God for all eternity? A simple way to know is to turn to Revelation 22:1-11. In these verses, one of the seven angels of the last plagues shows John a portion of New Jerusalem. The inhabitants are servants of God and Jesus.

Throughout the Bible, the most consistent description of God's people is that of being his servants. Abraham describes himself as being the Lord's servant in Genesis 18:3, and the Bible ends with a description of the servants of God being with God for all eternity. The pages in between are populated with those specifically called servants of God, such as: Moses, David, Mary, Paul and Peter.

The most important of all servants is Jesus. Jesus often told his followers of the importance of being servants. Here are just some small samples of the things Jesus said:

- Matthew 4:10 People must serve only God.
- Luke 16:13 Nobody can serve both God and money.
- Matthew 20:26, Mark 10:43: the one who will be great must be a servant of all.
- Matthew 25:23, Luke 19:17: in a parable he extols the virtues of productive servants by having the master say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."
- John 12:23: The Father will honor the ones who serve Jesus.

One of the most important aspects of being a servant is being obedient. In John 17:4, Jesus summarized his time on earth by telling the Father, "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do." Jesus was obedient by completing his assigned tasks, and by being obedient he brought glory to God.

The modern world extols a self-centered life. For instance, in your lifetime you will likely see or hear millions of commercials which are all designed to get you to buy or do something so you will be happier, smarter, better looking or more entertained. Most social media is designed to lure you with a self-centered, self-pleasing lifestyle. Movies, video games and most forms of entertainment are made to please you. All of these things speak to you being the center of life. No longer is there a specific "me generation," because all generations are me-centered.

In contrast, in Matthew 20:28 and Mark 10:45, Jesus said that the Son of Man (Jesus) came to serve, not to be served. If anyone wants to follow Jesus and be like Jesus, it is certain that person must be a servant.