Bibliography for *Good Citizen Podcast*

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"interacial marriages are hurtful, unhappy and wrong"
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Why Christians Should Support Slavery Christian History vol. 11 no.1 p.24

Figure 2.1
Originally from Christian History, *vol. 11, no 1., page 24, 1992. Reprinted with permission of Christian History, a product of Christianity Today, Inc.*

WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD SUPPORT SLAVERY

Key reasons advanced by southern church leaders

Many southern Christians felt that slavery, in one Baptist minister's words, "stands as an institution of God." Here's why:

Biblical reasons

▸Abraham, the "father of faith," and all the patriarchs held slaves without God's disapproval (Gen 21:9–10).

▸Canaan, Ham's son, was made a slave to his brothers (Gen 9:24–27).

▸The Ten Commandments mention slavery twice, showing God's implicit acceptance of it (Ex 20:10, 17).

▸Slavery was widespread throughout the Roman world, and yet Jesus never spoke against it.

▸The apostle Paul specifically commanded slaves to obey their masters (Eph 6:5–8).

▸Paul returned a runaway slave, Philemon, to his master (Philem 12).

Charitable and evangelistic reasons

▸Slavery removes people from a culture that "worshipped the devil, practiced witchcraft and sorcery" and other evils.

▸Slavery brings heathens to a Christian land where they can hear the gospel. Christian masters provide religious instruction for their slaves.

▸Under slavery, people are treated with kindness, as many northern visitors can attest.

▸It is in slaveholders' own interest to treat their slaves well.

Social reasons

▸Just as women are called to play a subordinate role (Eph 5:22; 1 Tim 2:11–15), so slaves are stationed by God in their place.

▸Slavery is God's means of protecting and providing for an inferior race (suffering the "curse of Ham" in Gen 9:25 or even the punishment of Cain in Gen 4:12).

▸Abolition would lead to slave uprisings, bloodshed, and anarchy. Consider the mob's "rule of terror" during the French Revolution.

Political reasons

▸Christians are to obey civil authorities, and those authorities permit and protect slavery.

▸The church should concentrate on spiritual matters, not political ones.

▸Those who support abolition are, in James H. Thornwell's words, "atheists, socialists, communists [and] red republicans."

— The Editors