



## **“The Christian Worker”**

*The Church’s Conduct*

Ephesians 6:5-9

*Christian workers are known for their:*

**I. Will** - “obedient to them that are masters” (v. 5)

*Labor with a commitment to :*

**A. Function** – “Servants”

**B. Fear** – “with fear and trembling”

**C. Focus** – “singleness of your heart”

**II. Work** – “ whatsoever good thing any man does” (vs. 6-8 )

*Labor with a concern for God’s :*

**A. Bidding** - “doing the will of God from the heart”

**B. Business** - “service as to the Lord ”

**C. Blessing** - “shall he receive of the Lord ”

**III. Words** - “forbearing threatening ” (v. 9)

*Labor with conversation that is :*

**A. Constructive** – “do the same things unto them”

**B. Commissioned** – “your Master also is in heaven”

**C. Consistent** – “neither... respect of persons ”

## Sentence Sermon:

**“Christian workers define excellence as glorifying God through their character and their craft .”**

## Additional Verses

- *I Corinthians 10:31*
- *Colossians 3:23; 4:1*
- *I Peter 1:17; 2:18-25*
- *Ruth 2:4*
- *Psalm 90:17; 128:2*
- *Leviticus 25:43*
- *Matthew 5:16; 6:33; 12:19; 20:25-28; 25:21*
- *Deuteronomy 15:10; 24:14*
- *Romans 13:1-2*
- *Proverbs 12:11; 14:23; 18:9*
- *Ecclesiastes 4:9*
- *II Thessalonians 3:10*

## Questions to Ponder:

- 1. Who is a servant?
- 2. How is the command to obey different than the command to submit?
- 3. What does singleness of heart look like? Can you share a real life example?
- 4. What is the “will of God” spoken of in this passage?
- 5. What is the warning/promise of verse 8?
- 6. How can a master “forbear threatening?”
- 7. How is the Christian’s perspective of work different than the worlds? How many of those differences can you list from this passage?

## **Ephesians is written to the Church**

**This passage follows the section of verses of believers, Christians, ought to be much different than other folks.**

**Submission and Obedience is one way that is clearly being highlighted. Notice from the beginning of chapter 5, we are told to be followers of God...giving up our will for His...Verse 21 – we are to voluntarily prefer others...verse 22 – wives to follow the lead of their husbands...Chapter 6 and verse 1 Children are told to obey their parents...verse 5 Servants (Workers) are told to be obedient to their Masters (bosses). This is a willful matter of the heart...one that this world has abandoned and yet we as believers, the Church, is called to be different and learn to follow. The world clamors for and teaches “reciprocal leadership” where everyone gets to be boss...God says “servants be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh.”**

## **V. 5**

- Servants = “doulos” = slave
- Be obedient = command
- To them =
- Masters according to the flesh = emphasizing the relationship (temporal)
- With fear and trembling = emphasizing the attitude or disposition
- In singleness of your heart = Consistency driven from character.
- As unto Christ = emphasizing the focus = the eternal
  - This is lined out for Deacons in I Timothy 3:8-13:
    - Be Respectable
    - Be Relational
    - Be Responsible
    - Get Results

## V. 6

- Not with eyeservice = not just to be seen but also when unseen or in the boss's absence.  
...contrasting with previous (with) statement and connecting with common practice
- As menpleasers = "just to please those watching...instead realize God is always watching"  
constrasting with "as unto Christ"
- But as servants of Christ = emphasizing our spiritual role and service
- Doing the will of God = Our mission
- From the heart = Our devotion

### ➤ 1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

(NIV)

## V. 7

- With good will = the "interest of the master" at heart...do you know what your boss's values are?
- Doing service =
- As to the Lord
- And not to men

## V. 8

- **Knowing =**
- Whatsoever good thing any man doeth =
- The same he shall receive of the Lord =
- Whether he be bond or free =

DO WE REALLY BELIEVE THIS??? THEN WE SHOULD SPEAK AND LIVE IT!! LOOK AT what the president of UGANDA said this week:

## V. 9

- **And =** Also when the role is reversed
- Ye masters = "kurios" "Lords" those wielding power and control
- Do the same things unto them = same principles previously mentioned...what were they:
  - Obedience
  - Fear and trembling
  - Singleness in your heart
  - Unto Christ
  - Remembering what goes around comes around -- **Ruth 2:4**
- (Also add) Forbearing threatening = "liberty from threatening" ....difference between threats and promises?????????????
- Knowing that your Master also is in heaven = you work for God
  - Do Like Jesus ...Lead like He did...How is that you ask??:
    - Matthew 12:19
      - Do not be quarrelsome
      - Do not be boisterous

- Do not make a public spectacle
  - Be Gentle
  - Be Patient
- Neither is there respect of persons with Him = no special deals allowing for impropriety

## President of Uganda Prayer

“We confess these sins, which have greatly hampered our national cohesion and delayed our political, social and economic transformation. We confess sins of idolatry and witchcraft which are rampant in our land. We confess sins of shedding innocent blood, sins of political hypocrisy, dishonesty, intrigue and betrayal,” Museveni said.

“Forgive us of sins of pride, tribalism and sectarianism; sins of laziness, indifference and irresponsibility; sins of corruption and bribery that have eroded our national resources; sins of sexual immorality, drunkenness and debauchery; sins of unforgiveness, bitterness, hatred and revenge; sins of injustice, oppression and exploitation; sins of rebellion, insubordination, strife and conflict,” Museveni prayed.

Next, the president dedicated Uganda to God.

“We want to dedicate this nation to you so that you will be our God and guide. We want Uganda to be known as a nation that fears God and as a nation whose foundations are firmly rooted in righteousness and justice to fulfill what the Bible says in Psalm 33:12: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. A people you have chosen as your own,” Museveni prayed.