

Slave or free had the same salvation and were to be treated the same by fellow Christians.

Instead of seeing their salvation as an excuse to disobey, Paul says that they are to be even more obedient to their earthly masters.

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based not upon the earthly master's worthiness, but upon the Lord.

In other words, the servant's obedience was

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How does this apply to you at your place of employment? Are you working and submitting to those in authority in such a way the doctrine of your God and Savior is adorned?

Titus 2:9-10

A Christian's work ethic is based upon their desire to please the Lord.

Your workplace performance is based upon your submission to the Lord.

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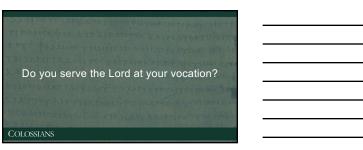
How does this principle apply to the employee/employer relationship within the workplace?



Philemon 1:11

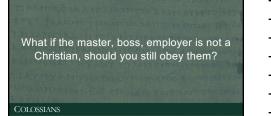
"(Formerly he was useless to you, but
now he is indeed useful to you and to
me.)"

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According to Paul, all Christians are working for the Lord, no matter what your job is.

Likewise, Christians employees are to remain submissive, respectful, and obedient even if we are working under the authority of an unbeliever who is not fair.

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Suffering as a servant under a cruel and unjust master was something that many were called upon by God to endure, and it may be so in your workplace as well.

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What does Peter tell them to think about when they have to work under such unjust suffering?

Christian employee who dishonors his employer or boss is behaving in a way that brings insult against God and Christianity.

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1 Timothy 6:1

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Remember, as a Christian, no suffering is in vain.

Does the honor you show to your boss, bring glory to God or does it give cause for your boss to speak poorly of Christianity?

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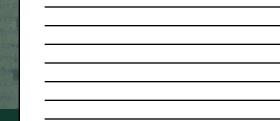
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Even as he speaks to servants in lowly, difficult positions, he reminds them to keep in mind the eternal inheritance that is theirs.

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May we strive to work in such a way that Christ is glorified, and the doctrine of God is adorned.

**Series: Colossians** 

Sermon: Colossians 3:22-25, 4:1

1. How should a Christian's workplace attitude, work ethic, and submissiveness be affected by their desire to honor Christ?

2. Honoring those above you in the workplace can be difficult. Should a Christian's obedience to their boss fluctuate dependent upon whether or not the boss is a Christian? Explain. See 1 Tim. 6:1-2, 1 Peter 2:18-23.

3. In general, those in the workforce will spend more time with coworkers than they will their own families. In what ways can a Christian be a representative of Christ in the workplace?

4. Many people dislike their jobs so much that their attitude towards the job causes them to be a poor representative of Christ to their boss and coworkers. What counsel would you give to such a person. See Col. 3:17,23-24 for a good place to start?

5. The command to work can be traced back to Genesis 2:15. There is continued instruction in other places as well. What truths can be mined from these passages regarding work?

A. 2 Thess. 3:6-15

B. Proverbs 6:6-11

C. Hebrews 13:5-6

6. Lastly, if you are in a workplace environment where the boss is unfair and harsh, does that mean that you are absolutely for certain to immediately leave the job? Why or why not. Consider the scriptures used today. Warning: Difficult level: HIGH.