

God's Expectations in the Workplace Ephesians 6:5-9

Workers should obediently serve as unto the Lord. 6:5-8

- ❖ The 3rd couplet is even more controversial now than the 1st one!
- ❖ Slavery was an integral part of Rome's economy, and churches were apparently full of them: Col. 3:22, I Cor. 7:2, I Tim. 6:1, Titus 2:9, I Pt. 2:18, Philemon, and consider Jesus' parables.

❖ Why didn't the NT condemn slavery?

❖ How to obediently serve:

Negative—not with mere *eye service* or as *men pleasers*

Positive—in *fear and trembling* (5:21,33), *sincerity of heart with good will as to Christ, as Christ's slaves doing His will*

❖ Why to obediently serve:

As with wives and children a motivation is supplied—a payoff exists, see Col. 3:24, I Pt. 2:19 (good testimony in Titus 2:10).

❖ What obvious implications are there for us today at our jobs?

Consider also 4:28, Gen. 2:15, Acts 20:33-35, Prov. 6:6-8, Col. 3:17,18, I Thess. 4:11,12, II Thess. 3:10-12.

Bosses shouldn't threaten since their Lord is in heaven. 9

❖ Which bosses are Paul obviously talking about here?

❖ Why little written to masters in contrast w/husbands & dads?

❖ Treatment: *do the same things* =?

justice and fairness, Col. 4:1

❖ Why run things this way? Again see Col. 4:1.

