

# Promoted in His Time!

#3129 0421 24A

wds1720

## Subject: Employer and Employees

[**Ephesians 6:5** obey the boss; obey the Lord; **6** work when the manager is absent; **7** work wholeheartedly; **8** the Lord then *promotes* you; **Philippians 2:3** consider *others* first; **Philippians 4:6** place all requests before God; **Acts 20** serve Jesus in humility and work to provide needs; **Colossians 3:24** *an inheritance from the Lord*; **1 Peter 2:18** be submissive & respectful; **19** God then accepts & promotes; **Luke 3:14** *be content with our wages*]

God has a pattern and plan for every life on earth, but very *few* ever read of it or know of it, and *fewer still* choose to *follow* that pattern even when they *know* it.

Work-related issues between employer and employee are so numerous they could not be counted.

The scriptural plan is clearly stated NIV **Ephesians 6:5** “[*Employees*], *obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.*”

We would do whatever Jesus asked us to do because of our sincere love *for* Him and our devotion *to* Him. That is in direct contrast to the attitude of unbelievers.

The scriptural attitude desires to **6** “[*Obey [the boss] not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart;*” also stated in **Colossians 3:22**.

We are to follow the boss’s directions NLT and work **7** “[*Wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward [promote] everyone for whatever good he does.*”

Unbelieving employees generally have a wrong response when asked by their employer to do a difficult job.

The economy today has most unbelievers fearing not having a job or being out of work. They search the Web or scan classified listings to locate a job—leaving God out of the matter.

The believer responds differently—if presently unemployed or when graduating from school, they have the valuable opportunity of placing a request before God in prayer for suitable employment to come to their attention. They do *not* depend on search engines or the Internet to find employment.

As this stand of faith on God for employment is maintained, He promises to bring our attention to a scriptural job.

NIV **Philippians 4:6** “[*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*”

Earning a wage, taking care of household expenses, giving to the poor, and supporting a Bible-believing church is doing God’s will.

The apostle said in **Acts 20:17-19**, “[*ye know the kind of life I lived among you the whole time, serving the Lord in all humility.*” **34-35** “[*That these hands of mine have provided for my own necessities and for the people with me. In all things I have set you an example.*”

Working at a job gives valuable opportunities to meet circumstances and people as a believer in Christ *should* meet such things.

Our commitment to do God’s will results in our *working* and *talking* much differently than unbelieving employees.

We should always finish or complete the task that the boss has given us to do **Ephesians 6:5** WEY “[*With respect and eager anxiety to please and with simplicity of motive as if you were obeying*

*Christ*”—as long as the boss’s request does not conflict with Bible teaching.

Employees can be tempted to *not obey* the boss and therefore to *not do* God’s will on this matter, but the Holy Spirit is available on request to inspire us to do what is right and carry through with the instructions of the Bible and of the employer.

Satan has had much influence in the workplace—he has unbelieving employees take unscheduled breaks or unspecified liberties against company policy.

As a follower of Christ, we are to work *steadily*, take only *permitted* breaks, and be an *asset* to the firm. Every morning our prayer should be for the Holy Spirit to help us do *quality* work and to *complete* the job we are working on.

NIV **Colossians 3:23** “[*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.*”

And there is a promise attached: **24** “[*Since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*”

Everyone wants a decent wage, good working environment, reasonable hours, and be offered convenient vacation times—but such requests are to be placed before God in *prayer* and *not demanded* of the boss in *anger*.

The workplace is fertile *soil* for spiritual growth. NIV **Colossians 2:7** “[*Rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith.*”

Employers *should* give the employees a fair wage, reasonable hours, and safe conditions, but many fail to do that.

The world’s way is to *demand* a change, *quit* the job, or *force* the issue—but the *believer* in Christ follows *godly* advice.

The attitude of the believer is **1 Peter 2:18** WEY “[*Employees*], *be submissive to your [employer], and show them the utmost respect—*

*not only if they are kind and thoughtful, but also if they are unreasonable.*

Unbelievers invent new ways to get back at inconsiderate employers. They will take unscheduled breaks, waste time, make personal phone calls, or scroll online. This is *not* God's pattern for the employee.

Whether it be low wages, unreasonable hours, unfulfilled promises, or difficult co-workers—all such issues are placed before God.

When we are *submissive* and *respectful* of the boss—**1 Peter 2:19** *“It is an acceptable thing with God, if, from a sense of duty to Him, a man patiently submits to wrong, when treated unjustly.”*

**NIV Philippians 4:6** *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”*

We should be thankful we *have* a job and *have* the opportunity to meet things right.

We are to complete every task to the best of our ability and to work faithfully—even when no one is around.

We are to be honest at all times and with everything—especially with hours we submit to payroll. Representing Christ means keeping busy all day no matter what others are doing or *not* doing.

Meeting harsh treatment and unreasonable demands at work in a *Scriptural* way is the *Lord's* way—He then *accepts* us.

**1 Peter 2:20** **WEY** *“If you do wrong and receive a blow for it, what credit is there in your bearing it patiently? But if when you do **right** and suffer for it you bear it **patiently**, this is an **acceptable** thing with God.”*

God *approves* of our being taken advantage of and He *commends* us when mean treatment is taken in silence.

God is *pleased* when we work all day and are honest in all things—even if the wages are low and the hours long.

Our boss may never thank us, and he may never say we are doing a good job, but God *approves* of us and *that* is what matters.

Every difficult task, requests for overtime, or if added responsibilities are placed on us—we must go before God in prayer and ask Him to enable us to do what the boss expects us to do.

Our response to every work-related issue is from God's Guidebook **1 Peter 2:20-21** **NIV** *“To this you were **called**, because Christ suffered for you, leaving **you** an example, that **you** should follow in His steps.”*

When beginning a new job, we are to agree with whatever the boss wants to pay us—and not demand a certain amount.

We must **Luke 3:14** **AV** *be content with our wages* and do our best at whatever task is set before us. As a follower of the Lord, we are to give *quantity in hours* and *quality of work*.

If Jesus asked us to do something, we would *do* it immediately and diligently until the task was completed. We are to do *any job* for *any employer* with the same *attitude* and the same *enthusiasm*.

We are not to consider that the pay is low, the work mundane, and the boss unreasonable **1 Peter 2:18-19**—because we are serving the **Lord** and working for **Jesus** **Ephesians 6:7-8**.

An **unbeliever** worries about today, tomorrow, and the future, but the **believer** listens to God who says *not* to worry.

He says to take **AV Matthew 6:34** *“no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself.”*

When we obey God's Word *first*, He supplies the need *second*. *Life* is far more important than food to *sustain* or the clothes to *cover* **Matthew 6**.

When we place God's will first, food, clothing, and everything else is supplied by Him second.

It is always good to think of *other* employees first—letting *them* have first *preference* regarding hours, vacation weeks, and jobs.

**Philippians 2:4** We are to look *“to the interests of others. 5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”*

When in Egypt, Joseph was an employee for Potiphar the Pharaoh's officer **Genesis 37**. Potiphar's wife, however, told a lie about Joseph which landed him in jail. He could have been executed for a crime he did *not* commit. It was the *worst* of employer injustices toward a faithful employee.

It took two years for Joseph to realize he was following the world's way for his release from prison, but when he *repented* and placed the matter before *God* in prayer, he was *cleared* of the charges and *promoted* to president—what a promotion!

Another example is Abraham—he had the right attitude toward the *other* person and told his nephew Lot to look over the land and take what he preferred **Genesis 13**. After giving Lot *first choice*, Abraham took *second*—what was left-over.

Abraham did this because he *loved God* with all his heart, soul, and mind. Then God rewarded him in ways beyond any earthly reward or promotion!

Our attitude toward God must be the *same* attitude Abraham had if we want the *same* promotion—**Abraham is already in Heaven!**

††

[www.fcgchurch.org](http://www.fcgchurch.org)

\*Receive free Tracts email:

[fcgchurch1@gmail.com](mailto:fcgchurch1@gmail.com)

Or write to: PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

#3129 0421 24A