

THE HEART OF OBEDIENCE

COLOSSIANS 3:22-25

RELATIONSHIP

Slave/Master

Doulos: a slave; literal or figurative, involuntary or voluntary; sense of subjection or subserviency.

So, a servant, a voluntary slave (bondservant), or involuntary slave

Slavery?

If Paul was writing to some who were in that situation, why doesn't he instead call out that institution? Or encourage them to revolt?

- Philemon

Instead of calling for revolution, scripture calls us to live like Christ in our present situations

RELATIONSHIP

Slave/Master

Any relationship where someone is in authority over you.

Employer/employee

Law enforcement/citizen

Guard/inmate

Teacher/student



RESPONSIBILITY

Obedience

Fulfilling your duty.

No complaining. No excuses.

No half-way work. No cutting corners.

“Not fair” is not an option.

Not only when the boss is looking or when you know you can be tracked.

Partial obedience is not obedience

RANGE

In everything.

The fun and fulfilling stuff.

The hard and draining stuff.

Only exception: when the duties are contrary to the Lord and
His word (Acts 4:18-20; 5:27-29)

REASON

Not simply to gain favor from men. Not to climb the ladder.

But because what I offer in this earthly relationship, is being received by Christ.

It may appear that the one being served is the earthly master...but it is, in reality, the ***Lord Christ that you are serving!***

This should cause us to work hard and work joyfully



What if they wrong me? What if they're not fair?

The Lord will avenge.

What if I choose not to obey?

Not only will Christ not be evident in my life, I will invite discipline from the Lord for my disobedience.

I would rather be wronged and have the Lord avenge, than try to incompletely serve justice myself and be disciplined by the Lord.

