

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: Colossians 3:22-4:1 – *the new man goes to a new job!*

Today's Message:

"Under New Management"

under new management

INTRODUCTION

Colossians 3:22-4:1

Last time, we continued our study of the new man with the first place the new man must visibly operate – at home. God's blueprint for marriage and family is clear and direct. Today, God draws our attention from the home to the workplace ("Monday morning"). There is a sign you sometimes see on the door of a business: "Under new management." It means the ownership has changed. The policies and expectations have changed. The way things are done inside that building is no longer the same. This is like what happens at salvation. You may still live in the same home, go to the same job, report to the same boss – but spiritually speaking, you are under _____ management. This is God's message to you...

LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text Colossians 3:22-4:1

Review

New Priorities – 3:1-4 – because you are risen with Christ, your priorities change!

A New Life – 3:5-9 – you must put to death your old sinful ways and life for Christ!

The New Man – 3:10-17 – you must put on Jesus Christ and His righteousness every day!

A New Home – 3:18-21 – the new man must visibly operate in your marriage and family!

A. New Master – the Christian has a new Master and Lord – Jesus Christ!

- Salvation does not remove us from life (*responsibility*) – it reassigns our _____.

Important Note

Paul begins where the culture was hardest: **servants (including slaves)**. He does not try to pretend the system does not exist.

- Colossians 3:22 – **Servants**,
OBEY IN ALL THINGS
your masters according to the flesh...

Important Note

The Holy Spirit knew about **slavery** and did not tell Christians to rebel.

"Servants" Under authority, obligated to serve (25-30% of empire); Application: "employees"
"Obey in all things" To listen attentively and respond in submission, not obedience to sin
"Masters according to the flesh" Earthly authorities with limited, temporary power

1 Corinth 6:19-20

... **ye are not your own**... For ye are BOUGHT with a price: therefore glorify God in your body...

Comparing Scriptures

- Ephesians 6:5-8 – **Servants**, be obedient to them that are your masters... the flesh...
- Acts 5:29 – Then Peter... answered and said... We ought to obey God rather than men.

Key Truth

- Your earthly boss may direct your labor and work, but Christ owns your life.

Important Note

"Bought" means to be **purchased fully**, leaving no remaining claim to the former owner.

This is a game-changer for life and can transform your work and life experience. Your job is not your master – Jesus Christ is! Amen.
Your employer may sign your paycheck, but Jesus Christ is your Provider!

B. New Motive – the Christian has a new motive for work – as to Jesus Christ!

2. Salvation changes the mindset and _____ of a Christian's work and service.

2 Corinth 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; **that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, WHETHER IT BE GOOD or BAD.**

Galatians 6:7-8

Be not deceived; **God is not mocked:** for **WHATSOEVER** a man soweth, that **shall** he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh **shall** of the flesh REAP CORRUPTION...

Romans 2:11

For there is **no respect of persons with God.**

- **Colossians 3:22** – ... **not** with **eyeservice**, as **menpleasers**; **but** IN SINGLENESS OF HEART, **fearing God**: A bad work ethic!
- 3:23 – **And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;**
- 3:24 – **Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for YE SERVE the Lord Christ.**
- 3:25 – **But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.**

“Eyeservice” Only under inspection **“Menpleasers”** A motivation to please men, not God

“Singleness of heart” The state of being one-focused; the opposite of double-minded

“Heartily, as to the Lord” With all the heart or sincerity as if (*because*) it is to the Lord!

“Of the Lord ye shall receive the reward” We get to work for Christ – blessings from Him!

“But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong” A very sober reality, accountability!

“And there is no respect of persons” Partiality based on position, wealth, or status in life

Comparing Scriptures

- **Ephesians 6:6** – ... **but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;**
- **Psalms 123:2** – **Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters...**

Key Truths

- Not “serve like Christ” or “represent Christ” but **“Ye serve the Lord Christ.”**
- Slaves are not excused for sin. Believers are not exempt from accountability.
- Christ sees faithful labor and unseen obedience; He promises eternal reward.

C. New Example – the Christian leader must follow Jesus Christ's example.

3. Salvation changes the way you _____ others under your care and responsibility.

To the Leaders

Lead like Jesus Christ
Treat people fairly
Treat people well
Servant leadership
Accountable to God

Micah 6:8

He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

- **Colossians 4:1** – **Masters,**
give unto YOUR SERVANTS that which is **JUST and EQUAL**;
knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

“Just” Morally right; due; full **“Equal”** Fair, balanced, humane; impartial; not biased

“Ye also have a Master in heaven” God has high expectations for Christian leaders!

Comparing Scriptures

- **Ephesians 6:9** – ... **masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening...**
- **Luke 12:48** – ... **For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required...**

Key Truths

- God has high expectations for leaders who care for people – in _____ situations!
- God rewards faithfulness; He sees mistreatment and rewards accordingly.

Everything changes when Christ takes ownership of your life.

The sign over your life now reads:

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT