Colossians 3:22-25 Qualities of Christian employees
<sup>22</sup> Slaves, in all things <u>meticulousness</u>
obey those who are your masters on earth,
not with external service, as those who <i>merely</i> please men,
but with sincerity of heart,sincerity
fearing the Lord <u>reverence</u>
<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, do your work
heartily,
as for the Lord rather than for men;
<sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance.
It is the Lord Christ whom you servetrust
<sup>25</sup> For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong
which he has done, and that without partiality.
20. Serve The Lord by obeying the boss
Colossians 4:1 Qualities of Christian employers
Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, <u>justice and fairness</u>
knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.
21. Serve The Lord by being just

- **1 Corinthians 3:13** ...each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is *to be* revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.
- <sup>14</sup> If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward.
- <sup>15</sup> If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.

**Ephesians 6:5** Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;

- <sup>6</sup> not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.
- <sup>7</sup> With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,
- <sup>8</sup> knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.
- <sup>9</sup> And, masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

**Titus 2:9** *Urge* bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative,

<sup>10</sup> not pilfering, but showing all good faith that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect.

- <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,
- **1 Timothy 6:1** Let all who are under the yoke as slaves regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and *our* doctrine may not be spoken against.
- <sup>2</sup> And let those who have believers as their masters not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, but let them serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these *principles*.
- **1 Peter 2:18** Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable.
- <sup>19</sup> For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a man bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.
- <sup>20</sup> For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God.
- <sup>21</sup> For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,
- <sup>22</sup> who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth;
- <sup>23</sup> and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;
- <sup>24</sup> and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, ...
- **Genesis 1:27** And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
- **Genesis 2:2** ... by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.
- <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.
- **Genesis 2:15** Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.
- **Genesis 3:17** Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.
- <sup>18</sup> "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you shall eat the plants of the field;
- <sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face You shall eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return."
- **Ecclesiastes 2:24** There is nothing better for a man *than* to eat and drink and tell himself that his labor is good. This also I have seen, that it is from the hand of God.
- **Ecclesiastes 3:13** ...every man who eats and drinks sees good in all his labor-- it is the gift of God.
- **Ecclesiastes 5:19** ...as for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to receive his reward and rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God.
- **Proverbs 6:6** Go to the ant, O sluggard, Observe her ways and be wise,
- <sup>7</sup> Which, having no chief, Officer or ruler,

- <sup>8</sup> Prepares her food in the summer, *And* gathers her provision in the harvest.
- <sup>9</sup> How long will you lie down, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep?
- <sup>10</sup> "A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest "--
- <sup>11</sup> And your poverty will come in like a vagabond, And your need like an armed man.
- **2 Thessalonians 3:6** Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep aloof from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.
- <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you,
- <sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we *kept* working night and day so that we might not be a burden to any of you;
- <sup>9</sup> not because we do not have the right *to this*, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, that you might follow our example.
- <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone will not work, neither let him eat.
- <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.
- <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread....

## Colossians 4:2-6 Practices of Christians citizens

Devote yourselves to prayer,

keeping alert in it

with an attitude of thanksgiving;

22. Pray alertly

<sup>3</sup>praying at the same time for us as well,

that God may open up to us a door for the word,

so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ,

for which I have also been imprisoned;

<sup>4</sup>in order that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

23. Witness clearly

<sup>5</sup>Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

24. Act wisely

<sup>6</sup>Let your speech always be with grace,

seasoned, as it were, with salt,

so that you may know how you should respond to each person.

25. Speak graciously

All scripture is from the NASV. Colossians 3:22-4:6 (text in boxes) is in the form of a phrase by phrase break down. The words and word order have not been changed.