



# God and Slavery

## Titus 2:9-10

**Background:** Scholars estimate that more than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population of the Roman Empire consisted of slaves at the time of Paul.

- **Titus 2:9, 10** is not an endorsement of slavery and it is not dealing with what should be, but with what is. Christians have had a major part in fighting slavery around the world and over the centuries.
- The truths and commands of this passage are clearly applicable to the *workplace*.

**The Truth is:** The workplace can be a brutal place.

**Problem:** Some people are really, really, really hard to work for.

**Slaves (vv 9, 10) make a terrific impact and honor God and His Word by:**

- **The Command:** Being subject to their masters in everything.
  - Urge:
  - Bond-slaves:
  - To be subject:
- **How To Obey The Command:**
  - Do your best to please them.
  - Do not argue or talk back.
  - Do not steal.
  - Demonstrate yourself to be entirely trustworthy.
  - Demonstrate personal goodness.

**The Result: This kind of living will “adorn the doctrine of God.”**

- Adorn means to: “give credit to, put in order, adorn, arrange, or decorate.” The word is used of arranging jewels to show off their full beauty.

**Major Idea:** A life of gracious submission to authority and distinctive goodness...makes the beautiful truth about God even more attractive.

- A beautiful life makes a beautiful message even more attractive.

**Major Application:** In any place you work...

**The Titus Journal**—for November 15<sup>th</sup>—as we strive to be doers of the Word! My gracious submission to authority—especially in the workplace—makes the Gospel attractive.

Therefore I will: \_\_\_\_\_

# “Walking Papers”

*Practical helps for walking the Christian walk each day this week.*

**Major Idea:** A life of gracious submission to authority and distinctive goodness...makes the beautiful truth about God even more attractive.

- A beautiful life makes a beautiful message even more attractive.

**Please read Titus 2:9-10 each day before looking at the exercises below.**

- **Today:** Reflect on how you are doing in the area of “gracious submission to authority—especially in the workplace—and living a life of distinctive goodness. Ask God for His work in your life in these areas.
- **Monday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change in your *submission to some authority in your life*?
- **Tuesday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change in your *commitment to please those for whom you work*?
- **Wednesday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change in your *verbal style and habits toward your boss—including under your breath*?
- **Thursday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change to stop *stealing time, money, tools, intellectual property, or anything from your employer*?
- **Friday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change in your *practice of utter and ongoing trustworthiness in the workplace*?
- **Saturday:** In what way may you need to make an intentional change in your *demonstration of unique personal goodness to and before others*?

**Note for Connection Groups:** The full study guide for small group and personal study is available at: [www.cypressbible.org](http://www.cypressbible.org) and then click on “Get Connected” and the link is on that page.