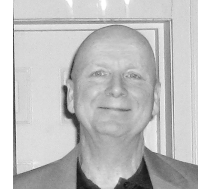


Lo The d Ou Righteousness

Your Real Boss

Elder Charles Moore



slaves, it must also apply to carpenters, janitors, accountants, secretaries, fast-

We just celebrated Labor Day, but we don't think of Labor Day like many other holidays, do we? We don't even mark this holiday for its original founding purpose. This was to honor America's workers, particularly those who worked for labor unions.

Most of us think of Labor Day as the three-day weekend that marks the last blast of summer. The only trappings that we associate with Labor Day are not cards, gifts, songs or decorations but are sunscreen, beaches, and another day to sleep in and of course, a day off of work. So, there's no real Christian reason to mark this particular holiday. However there is a very clear biblical reason to understand our work and its relationship to our Lord and our faith in Christ even if we are one of those people who are not paid, but still have the responsibilities of a paid worker. i.e. Parent, student, retiree who is still looked to for support and guidance. This is because of the "whatever you do" aspect of the following passage.

Paul says, **"Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not**

with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." (Colossians 3:22-24) At first glance, you might think, hey, that's all about slaves and masters and has nothing to do with our work in this day and age. That's true, but I don't think it's a stretch to say that, if Paul admonished slaves to do their work well and with sincerity of heart and to do their work as working for the Lord and not for men, then how much more would that admonition apply to those of us who are being paid to do a job? We can scarcely imagine the menial, demeaning and wretched tasks that such slaves did in these times. Yet God himself regarded such work as being done for him. So if such an admonition applies to

food workers, salesmen, computer programmers, teachers, nurses, homemakers, counselors, students, construction workers and so on.

So from God's viewpoint how should we as followers of Christ view our work and how should we conduct ourselves in our workplaces? First and foremost, it tells us who our real boss is. Some of us have bosses that are great to work for. Some of us work for people who might really help us relate to this idea of slaves and their masters, because they make us feel like slaves. Most of us are somewhere in between. Paul is telling us here that it doesn't matter, because the one who supervises you is not your real boss. He or she is only a delegate of your real boss.

So whether or not your boss recognizes that he's not really THE boss, we as followers of Christ are to do our work in such a way that we reflect the reality that we are working for our real boss, we are working for the Lord and not for that boss who just happens to supervise us on the

(Continued on page 2)

**FALL RETREAT
AND
BUSINESS
MEETING
OCTOBER
4,5,6**

job.

Paul says you need to go to work every day as eagerly as you would if Jesus were your personal supervisor. Go about that work as if you were typing that letter for Jesus to sign, programming that computer for Jesus to run, building that house for Jesus to live in. There's no doubt at all that if Jesus really were your boss, you'd be willing to obey without argument and without delay. You would try to give your best all day long. Paul says that's how a Christian should serve his earthly boss.

Alan Smith says, "A faithful Christian doesn't just do the minimum his job requires, much less work only when his supervisor is watching. In fact, he shouldn't need to be checked up on at all, because he always does the work to the best of his ability, whether or not anyone is around. And he works just as hard when he's passed over for a raise or promotion as when he's being considered for them. He does his work with "sincerity of heart", with all his heart."

"In every form of Christian service as well as in every sphere of life, there are many tasks which people find obnoxious. Needless to say, we try to avoid such work. But this verse teaches us the very important lesson that the humblest service can be glorified and dignified by doing it for the Lord. In this sense, there is no difference between secular and sacred work. All is sacred. Rewards in heaven will not be for prominence or apparent successes; they will not be for talents or opportunities; but rather for faithfulness."

Believers Bible Commentary

Why? Again, because ultimately we're not serving our earthly boss, we're not even doing it primarily for the paycheck. We're serving the Lord. We're doing what we do as if we're doing it for the Lord Himself. Our goal is to glorify the King of Kings. Our satisfaction and fulfillment is rooted and grounded in our relationship with Jesus. Our satisfaction we find in work is gravy; it's a byproduct, of our relationship with our Lord. Let's remember that, as we go to our places of employment or our classrooms with a renewed sense of who our Real Boss is.

Cyberspace News Geneva Begeman



This report was written as the month rolled on starting about the middle of August. A month in the life of the outlying reporter:

This week I have gotten three wonderful phone calls so I am putting their news down while it is fresh in my mind.

First, Jerome Ripley called and we had a wonderful visit. He says Norma is somewhat improved and has her wonderful sense of humor which keeps the aides laughing. Rip is still keeping busy seeing her every day. Remember them both in prayer.

Dorothy Layton called to tell me she is doing okay these days. She was looking forward to seeing Deborah's granddaughter Rebecca on her trip up to the Stoner's for a birthday outing. Lynn and Rob Vaughn paid a surprise afternoon visit to our home this week and we really enjoyed the company.

I had a wonderful surprise with a call from Lenny Weedon. He just wanted to catch up on our health issues etc. He and wife Sandra are well, and he is keeping the golf courses in business in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina!

I had a doctor's appointment this week and would like to ask for prayer. They have found a spot on my back vertebra that indicates a break. I am having a biopsy on it on to make sure it is not something else. The doctor feels good about it, but now I may have to get healed from that. I would appreciate your prayers. (The results were negative, Praise The Lord!)

I got a call from the other side of the US this morning. Kevin Lane called to find out how everyone in MI is doing. He and wife Heather are doing great! Thanks for all the wonderful calls this month!

I got a letter from Bennie Gee with an update from northern California. She and Roy are traveling to Bennie's church where she met Roy many years ago as her pastor. She is looking forward to renewing old friendships. Have a great trip, Roy and Bennie.

Sonya Pease is making a big change in her life soon. She is going to change jobs and switch to contract work. She tells us she is working a lot of hours right now, so hopefully the contract work will give her a little more time to relax.

Jon and Berty Lane have are now residents of Washington state. Scott from Nashville and SheALyn from Phoenix came to visit Berty for her birthday and get acquainted with mom and dad's new home.

I have given you a month of visits with folks. There has also been two babies born this month. Melissa and David Vaughn had a daughter, Sylvia Rose on August 17, and Kane and Jennie Begeman had a son, Everett Russell, August 24. Tim and Diane went to AZ when he was born and spent some time getting acquainted with him and enjoyed big sister Ainsley. This is the last day of August and I received one more nice surprise. I got a call from Deborah Stoner to wish us well and to catch up on our lives. They are doing well (she and Jim). They keep busy as everyone seems to do.

I know this is a little different news than usual, but I enjoyed telling you how my month went. We love you all and wish you well. May God bless you as He has us this month!



Michigan Report

Tim Begeman

College will start soon which means young adults will be on their own, maybe for the first time. I have a suggestion to maintain your Christian faith even in the face of constant opposition both by fellow students and teachers. We must not only try to maintain our walk with Christ, but also do our best to be change agents in the face of moral and gospel antithesis. A father was giving his daughter some advice as she was leaving for college and her reaction was you don't trust me? He said, "I don't trust myself how could I trust you in an environment that tests even the most mature Christians?" When leaving home you are going from a safe environment to an unsafe environment on your own and being on your own has its own challenges and temptations. It's not as easy as you think to live on your own and to be accountable to God without faltering. My suggestion is to find a new Christian group where you are that is as committed to Christ as you are that will hold you accountable and hang with them. Bad company corrupts good morals and the reverse is true. Good company strengthens good morals. I presume you have good morals and you have good character, I want you to stay that way. You probably want it to stay that way, so find some people like you. People who have kindred spirit, like minded and committed to Christ and serious about being disciples. That's the kind of people you want to hang out with.

On the 14th of August David Charles went under the knife to repair a previous surgery that didn't turn out so well. They removed the causes of the lingering infection he had and found that his internal organs looked great. The doctor stapled him shut and with the help of his daughter Kathy and others he is recovering nicely. He has big plans for travel in the near future so be sure and pray that he continues his due diligence in physical therapy to recover fully. Just like what Dr. Desmond Ford says, we are what we are because we've been doing what we've been doing. Those are words that I have been living by for a long time. I haven't missed more than a week of workouts since 1978.

Speaking of Davids, David Moore had his debut dramatic reading performance at church on the 19th of this month. He read an entire book named "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie. I think we can expect big thinks from him in the future. I always wanted to read a book to the congregation but I didn't think it would go over very well, but David proved me wrong.

Rox-Ann Moore visited our church a couple of Sabbaths this month and brought her two boys, Zach and Xavier. It was nice to have the pitter patter of tiny feet at church again. They both were well behaved and eager to learn in my wife, Diane's class. Rox-Ann has since moved to the Monroe area and we hope to see them at church often.

This month my mom, Geneva, has gotten her last Chemo treatment and had a test to see the status of the tumor. The test indicated that the tumor had disappeared which is good news. The bad news is her back pain seems to not only be persisting but moving to different areas of her lower back. The doctors did a further biopsy but it came back negative which is also good news. The next step for the doctors is to find out why she is still having pain. Pray that the physicians can fix what is wrong without surgery if possible.

We finally got the dates for Color Camp 2014 finalized and locked in. Camp will start on the 13th of July and run to the 18th, so please keep those dates in mind and tell all your friends, neighbors and coworkers.

There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you its going
to be a butterfly.

R. Buckminster Fuller

**CHURCH OF THE
LORD OUR
RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**1922 LaSalle Road
Monroe, MI 48162
Church 734-242-9511**

Editor - Jamie Carothers
Jamie.Carothers@utoledo.edu

Publisher - Diane Begeman
734-417-2392
veggie@charter.net

website
colornet.org

TRUST?

AS A NEW SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, MR. MITCHELL WAS CHECKING OVER HIS SCHOOL ON THE FIRST DAY. PASSING THE STOCKROOM, HE WAS STARTLED TO SEE THE DOOR WIDE OPEN AND TEACHERS BUSTLING IN AND OUT, CARRYING OFF BOOKS AND SUPPLIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE ARRIVAL OF STUDENTS THE NEXT DAY.

THE SCHOOL WHERE HE HAD BEEN A PRINCIPAL THE PREVIOUS YEAR HAD USED A CHECKOUT SYSTEM ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS ELABORATE THAN THAT AT FORT KNOX.

CAUTIOUSLY, HE ASKED THE SCHOOL'S LONG-TIME CUSTODIAN, "DO YOU THINK IT'S WISE TO KEEP THE STOCKROOM UNLOCKED AND TO LET THE TEACHERS TAKE THINGS WITHOUT REQUISITIONS?"

THE CUSTODIAN LOOKED AT HIM GRAVELY. "WE TRUST THEM WITH THE CHILDREN, DON'T WE?" HE SAID.

SUMMER AT C.O.L.O.R.



Kameron O'Leary
Counselor of the Year 2013



Sylvia Rose Vaughn



Robert Dilg
Camper of the Year 2013



The Echoes gave an impromptu concert for us.



David Moore & Kathy Smeltzer
"If You Gave A Mouse a Cookie"



Everett Russell Begeman



Everett, Kane & Tim Begeman