

How to Beautify Your Beliefs Titus 2:9-10

Introduction:

1. Praise God, today the slave/master relationship no longer exists in America. But the employee/boss relationship **does** exist. You simply have more rights, privileges and opportunities than a slave.
2. According to **Titus 2:9-10**, when you (as a worker) display a certain conduct while working, you beautify what you believe about Jesus Christ and the Word of God.
3. The word "adorn" means "to decorate, to beautify."
 - In other words, you make the gospel of Christ and the Christian faith look appealing to those who are lost and without Christ.
4. On the other hand, the absence of the Biblical work ethic will bring reproach upon the name of Christ.
 - When your actions match your beliefs it is called integrity.
 - When your actions do not match your beliefs it is called hypocrisy.
5. When you are working, how do you beautify your beliefs?

By showing proper respect for those in authority – vs. 9

1. According to this verse, when you work for others, you are to obey them and seek to please them in all things. **cf. Colossians 3:22; Ephesians 6:5**
 - Naturally, if they ask you to disobey God's Word, you must obey God first and foremost.
2. When you have an obedient spirit to please those that you work under, you demonstrate respect for their position.
 - You may say, "But I **don't** respect them!"
 - Maybe you can't respect the person, but God's Word says that you should respect and honor the **position**.
3. Someone may ask, "But what if my boss is ungodly and wicked - a pagan unbeliever?"
 - **Illustration:** Daniel in pagan environment working for pagan kings, yet he showed proper respect.
4. Notice **Ephesians 6:5** again and carefully note the last three words, "**...as unto Christ.**"
 - As long as you work for that boss, you are to obey him/her with the same spirit and attitude that you would Jesus Christ.

By exhibiting complete honesty in everything you do – vs. 10

1. It might help if we define some words in verse 10.
 - Purloining - stealing, embezzling
 - Fidelity - honesty, adherence to truth
2. Over one third of all employees admit that they steal from their employer (money, time theft, theft of supplies, merchandise or company property, overcharging customers and pocketing it, information theft, product design, and trade secrets)
 - It costs businesses in the United States 60 to 120 billion dollars per year.

3. Christian, you destroy the testimony of Christ when you are dishonest at work. Your daily life should reflect who lives inside of you. **Romans 12:17; 2 Corinthians 8:21**
4. When you are at work, you represent Christ, your pastors, your church, this body of believers, and the Word of God.
5. When you are squeaky clean honest, others may not like you or may even resent you (**Daniel 6:4**). What was the key for Daniel? **Daniel 6:20** gives us the key, "...whom thou servest continually."
 - He didn't separate his job from his service to the Lord. He knew he represented God everywhere and in everything he did.

By demonstrating a zeal for your work – vs. 9

1. This verse says, "...to please them well in all things."
 - In **Colossians 3:23** and **Ephesians 6:7** notice the phrase, "*as to the Lord.*"
 - You do your job as if Christ were your boss and Christ will be inspecting your work.
 - **Illustration:** Joseph - whether it was Potiphar's house, prison, or second-in-command in Egypt, his work ethic was always the same.
2. When a Christians demonstrate a lazy, careless approach to their work, it reflects on their Savior. What platform do you have with which to speak to your co-workers about Christ?
3. But when Christians are faithful, zealous, and fervent toward their work, it beautifies their beliefs concerning Jesus Christ and His Word.

By displaying a good attitude at all times – vs. 9

1. In verse 9, notice the phrase, "...not answering again."
 - This means "to dispute, contradict, speak against."
 - **Ephesians 6:7** says, "...with *good will* doing service." "Good will" means with kindness.
2. Daniel is such a great example - **Daniel 6:3**
 - He was preferred, but why? An excellent spirit was in him.
 - Do you think things always went his way? Do you think he always approved of everything that went on at work? Remember, he worked in a pagan environment.
 - "But you don't know my job and the kind of people I have to work with. I hate my job. I'm a victim of circumstances. I have this job because I couldn't get the one I wanted."
 - There may be somebody at work that God could use you to reach with the gospel of Christ, but you never will with that kind of an attitude.
3. When you display a godly spirit and attitude at all times, you adorn (beautify) your beliefs about Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

In Conclusion:

1. You must quit viewing your work life as separate from your faith. We tend to compartmentalize our life (church, work, home, hobbies, etc.).

2. This is not God's plan. God's Word teaches that your Christian faith should influence and affect **every** other area of your life. As you live out your faith, you adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.
3. Here is the point of **Titus 2:1-10**: whether it is old age, youth, married, single, home life, work life, we are to demonstrate the grace of God and the Lord Jesus Christ in all things.
4. According to this passage, our lives play a major role in the public testimony of Jesus Christ and the Word of God. vs. 5, 8, 10