



I Need a Raise Pt. 1

I remember watching an Instagram skit where the gentlemen said, “What’s my dream job? I don’t dream of working.” I felt that in my soul. Unfortunately, while we are in this captivity, we have to work and the overwhelming majority of us will work for our captors. My goal has been to make the most money I can for my lord’s house while balancing my duties at home. Since we have to go to work anyway, why not move up the ladder, right? But before we do that, we have to lay a foundation of having a great name in the workplace. Let’s dive in.

God has left us examples in the Bible on how we should work in this captivity. Jacob is a clear illustration of being treated unfairly at work. In Genesis 31:41 KJV he tells his father in law, Laban, “Thus have I been twenty years in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle: and thou has changed my wages ten times.” He also goes on to say how he worked tirelessly, day and night in all weather conditions, and took the loss of any of Laban’s animals that were killed. Yet and still, Laban did not compensate him fairly. Does this sound familiar? I know as a salary employee, I have worked sixty plus hour work weeks with no additional compensation, bought items I needed without reimbursement, and watched as others got promoted before me. What can we learn from our forefather Jacob? Stop complaining and be accountable! Jacob did not complain and he took accountability for any of Laban’s flock lost in his care, even when he did not have to. He simply did the job he agreed to do and when it was time for him to move on, he did so with the direction of God. If you are at work complaining, deflecting, gossiping and not keeping the commandments, you are only prolonging your time in that position.

Another great example is Joseph, being sold into slavery by his brothers. We would all understand if Joseph had been angry, bitter, hateful and disgruntled. However, we know that he was not because Genesis 39:3 KJV says, “And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand.” This is something I ask for when I send up my prayers in the morning. We want our enemies to be at peace with us and for our work to prosper. When you are at work, know your job. Everything your hand touches should prosper. If you have a report to turn in, your boss should automatically know it is correct before he looks at it. If you have something to say, people should stop to listen because they know something important is about to be said. Joseph was not a coon, singing and dancing at work. He was not constantly trying to do the least amount of work possible, riding the clock, or constantly calling in. Joseph was so dependable that even when he was unjustly thrown into prison, he was eventually promoted to being the overseer. Sis, are you dependable? Are you late more than you should be? Do you call in too much? Do you just quit jobs with no notice? These are all signs that you are not reliable or trustworthy. If you have these issue, read this history and meditate therein.

My last example is Daniel. He was a eunuch in the Babylonian captivity and his faith was amazing. When asked to eat the king’s unclean foods as the other eunuchs did, he was able to keep God’s commandments because Daniel 1:9 KJV says, “Now God had brought Daniel into



favor and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.” As you read on, God increased their knowledge and wisdom to the point where the king found Daniel and his brethren to be far more superior than his own wicked counselors. Are you trying to request the high holy days off and can’t get them? Are you needing to change your schedule and nothing is working? Sis, check your spirit at work. First, pray to have favor in the eyes of your bosses and then make sure your actions match what you are praying for. This reminds me of how the Lord has blessed me on many of my jobs with things like being able to work a different schedule than everyone else, being allowed to work the wicked holidays and take off on the holy days, being able to ask for higher pay when the job market is not great. I am not saying I am perfect at work, but I try to remember Sirach 41:12 KJV Apocrypha, “Have regard for thy name; for that shall continue with thee above a thousand great treasures of gold.” Your employer should want to make sure they not only keep you, but keep you happy.

Hopefully we see that we cannot walk around the workplace with fringes on, but our behavior is indistinguishable from the unrepentant. Don’t shame the ministry! We must be seen as dependable, accountable and knowledgeable if we want the Lord to bless our endeavors at work. These blessings will not only benefit your lord’s home, but it will benefit the church in alms, also. Speaking of your lord’s home, isn’t it amazing how these are the same traits our lords are looking for in us, as wives? Therefore, if the things I wrote are not second nature to you, please check your spirit at home. Remember, faith without works is dead and no matter what you do, as Colossians 3:23 KJV tells us, “...do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men.” Then and only then, will you be ready to ask for a raise.

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