

The Attackers: System Testing, the Relationship between Management & Labor: Management Must Be Fair, Labor Must Be Productive, Both Must Be Impartial, Col 3:23–25; Disaster Testing: Personal: Exigencies of Life & Natural Phenomena; Collective: Cultural Decline & Historical Downtrends; Prosperity Testing: Individual & Collective: Loss of Thought

30. This doctrinal conclusion is supported by:

Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, continuously perform your work [static present middle imperative of ἐργάζομαι (*ergázomai*)] from your soul, as for the Lord rather than for men,

v. 24 - knowing that from the source of the Lord you shall receive in return the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

v. 25 - For he who does wrong will receive back the consequences for the things he has done wrong, and that without partiality. (EXT)

31. Part of passing system testing is to avoid the psychological traps that injustice can solicit.
32. The context of this paragraph places the believer in the status of a slave under the authority of a slave master.
33. In modern parlance, the arrangement would be an employee under the authority of an employer but other examples are also applicable.
34. The implication in verse 25 is that the employer has been unfair and unjust with his employee.
35. This association can be expanded to reference any system that has individuals in authority over others.
36. Consequently, it is common for there to be injustice by those who are in authority in any given system.
37. God does not support this circumstance but He, in eternity past, observed it and therefore decreed that it would occur.
38. God does not support the machinations of the human lust patterns, sinful decisions, or evil intentions.
39. If free will is truly free, then God from His integrity allows it to remain free.
40. Consequently, individuals will often find themselves in an intractable situation in which they are victims of evil men's dominance.
41. The divine instruction in this passage to the oppressed individual is to "continuously perform his work from the source of his soul."
42. The orientation one must adjust to is that he does not work for his earthly authority but rather for the Lord Christ.
43. Among the data recorded in the divine decree are not only those made by the believer in this circumstance but also those made by his antagonist.
44. God will reward the believer for allowing divine justice to manage the situation rather than intervening with human-viewpoint problem-solving devices.

45. When we submit to our circumstances, we allow the Lord to administer justice where it belongs; discipline for the corrupt employer and reward the employee.
46. This reward is eternal. It is of far greater value than any of the assumed advantages gained by reactionary efforts against the antagonist.
47. The key concept that enables a person to effectively orient and adjust to momentum tests concludes verse 24, "It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."
48. The next category of momentum testing is disaster. Two categories are prominent: (1) personal and (2) historical.
49. Personal disaster testing is designed to accelerate one's spiritual momentum or serve as a warning for involvement in the Dark Side.
50. Categories of personal disaster include: physical or mental pain, being victimized by crime, persecution, restriction of basic necessities, loss of personal possessions, or loss of one's reputation, finances, or health.
51. There are natural phenomena that accompany national disaster: extreme heat or cold, drought, flood, storms, tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
52. National disaster also includes cultural phenomena: violence, crime, terrorism, drug abuse, murder, rape, child abuse and molestation, corruption, theft, and perversion.
53. National discipline includes all of these plus the loss of personal freedoms, economic recession and depression, breakdown of law and order, warfare, separation of families, and general disorder.
54. Prosperity testing also has two categories: (1) individual and (2) collective.
55. Individual prosperity testing includes personal advancement and success, assisted by education, knowledge, talent, ability, circumstances, and perseverance. Many believers allow the accouterments of earthly prosperity to become a distraction to the daily intake of Bible doctrine.
56. When a large number of believers enjoy soul prosperity, then blessing by association benefits the entire commonwealth.
57. Prosperity results in modern advancements that are collectively utilized by a high percentage of the population.
58. It is normal for unbelievers and Christians with little or no doctrine to become disinterested in the importance of Bible study.
59. The gradual loss of thought permits the intrusion of licentiousness into the body politic. When the cultural base becomes too weak to maintain order, the general trend is toward hedonism.