The Runaway Mind CFB

The man was troubled. His supervisor at his work had not paid him the overtime he was due from working last Saturday. It was not much money, but he needed it for the car. The brakes were starting to squeak and he knew they would shortly begin to fade and with the rising prices, he needed that overtime to cover the repairs. Why did the boss not pay him? He was a loyal employee that had been with the company for years. Indeed, in the early days when the company was smaller he was always willing to work weekends to help out. He thought the company knew that. He thought his supervisor knew that. So why did they not pay him? This was very wrong. The man began to feel it amounted to theft.

The man began to wonder if the company knew his boss was stealing. He probably should do something about it. He should probably go to the head and tell them the boss was stealing. Maybe they would give him an award. He wondered how much of an award he would get. Maybe if the supervisor had stolen from several other people the leaders would be so grateful they would give him all the funds as a reward. That might even be enough for a down payment on a new car. He could get a nice shiny new car and not even worry about fixing the old one.

But then he began to remember that he should really not accuse anyone. His sister was always telling him to be nice. Maybe the boss was stealing, and thought that it didn't matter. He knew he needed to follow the good book and try to love his enemy like his sister said. So the man tried to feel love for the thief. But it was so hard, and he felt it was almost wrong to allow him to get away with it. Which was better – to let him continue to steal from loyal employees and to show love for the employees by stopping him, or should he just let it continue and show love for the one who stole his much needed overtime. Which is better ?

The man was getting confused. On the one hand, its always better to never steal and let everyone have their overtime, but on the other hand, maybe the supervisor had something going on and need the funds. The man knew he really did not like confrontation, and would rather just let the matter drop. But then all those other people that the boss was stealing from would also lose their funds, and wives and children would not get whatever the other workers whose overtime was stolen would have gotten. He resolved that he had to do something. He began planning what to do.

He thought the best approach was to first, make sure there was a witness. After all, he could accuse the supervisor, and he could deny it and fire him right there. So he thought that he should hang around the time clock because the supervisor always had to check to see if anyone was out at the beginning of the day. That was the time to confront him. And he also knew he could keep a fellow employee around the clock by asking about the weekend plans, since after clocking in, everyone like to take a minute or two to hang around and talk before jumping into the line. So that was the plan. The Man set it up in his mind to do the next morning.

In the morning, the man was nervous. He did not want to make a show of it. Maybe the boss would fire him. Or worse, maybe accuse him of lying. The man began to weaken a little. But then he thought of all the other people that needed those stolen paychecks, and steeled himself. He reached the time clock and clocked in. Afterwards, one of his co-workers came by and they began to chat. The man kept his

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eye out looking for the boss, and soon he saw him come out of his office and walk towards the time clock to check on the day's attendance. The boss was looking at a chart in his hand and began to walk up to the clock. Just as the man began to step forward to accuse him and straighten the whole thing out, he hesitated. Suddenly he felt it was wrong. A feeling deep inside him just told him to stop. So he did. What was happening? He was going to miss his chance! But he just stood there. Something was not right.

Just then the supervisor looked up from his clipboard and saw the man. The boss's face lit up and a smile appeared. "I am glad I found you. There has been a mistake in payroll, and they missed your overtime from last week. May we include it in the next paycheck?". Almost automatically the man agreed and they shook hands with each other, and the man began walking to his station.

The man was amazed and almost in a daze. He had been wrong to accuse him, and he felt bad for that. And he felt bad that he had spent all that time just getting angry with him because he never checked. But there was something else the he was noticing and that was causing him to wonder. Something had held him back, and he was very grateful for it, but what was it? Then he remembered that his sister was always talking about how there was something called the soul inside of all people, and that it could provide promptings that if he listened real hard and bypassed his mind, they could guide them. Maybe that was what had happened. Maybe his mind was just talking too loud and angry for him to hear anything like a "prompting". His sister always said that the soul could be filled with love and insight that would guide him if he was quiet and listened for it. The man resolved to call his sister that night, and ask about it.

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