



## #2 Labor Of Love

**God's Original Design For Work** Genesis 1:26-28, 31a, 2:15

Mankind's Tasks: **SUBDUE** the earth and **RULE** over the animals

Adam's Job: **CARETAKER** of the Garden of Eden

Our work in heaven: **SERVE** God forever!

**The Impact Of The Curse On Work** Genesis 3:17-19

Our work became **HARDER**

**The Gospel And Our Work**

**1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 (NIV)** So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. <sup>32</sup> Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God — <sup>33</sup> even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved. 1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

Our work is done for **GOD'S GLORY**

**Colossians 3:17, 23-24 (NIV)** And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

<sup>23</sup> *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,* <sup>24</sup> *since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the **Lord Christ** you are serving.*

Our work serves **JESUS HIMSELF**

**Colossians 1:15-17 (NIV)** The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Our work **ASSISTS** Jesus in His work

**God is glorified when we...**

1. ...acknowledge our work is to please **GOD**, not men. (Colossians 3:23-24)
2. ...are **HONEST**, even if it hurts us or costs us something. (Psalm 15, Genesis 39)
3. ...honor our **SUPERIORS** and submit to their authority. (1 Peter 2:13-14, Romans 13:7)
4. ...treat our work associates with **KINDNESS** and **RESPECT**. (Luke 6:31, Romans 12:18)
5. ...expose fraud, **DISHONESTY**, or unethical behavior. (Ephesians 5:11-13)
6. ...approach our work **PRAYERFULLY**.
7. ...avoid **COMPLAINING** or grumbling. (Philippians 2:14-15)
8. ...refuse to make work and money **IDOLS**. (Matthew 6:24, Ecclesiastes 5:10-12)
9. ...live **SIMPLY** and give **GENEROUSLY**. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

**Applications**

1. Work **HARD**. (2 Thessalonians 3:10, 1 Timothy 5:8, Ephesians 4:28)
2. Honor the **SABBATH**. (Genesis 2:2-3, Exodus 20:9-10, Matthew 11:28-30)
3. Don't expect your work life to be **PERFECT**. (Genesis 3:17-19)
4. Focus on God's **WILL** in your work. (Matthew 6:9-13, Psalm 23)
5. See your job as a **CALLING**.

**Do What You Love?**

**Hebrews 12:1-3 (NIV)** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.