

“Work is Good” – Message Series

Part 1 – Work is Worship

1. Greeting

- Online change
- Truth Church (Kingdom minded)
- New series 4 weeks

2. Reading

3. Prayer

4. Intro

- Part 1 - **“Work is Worship”**... will make sense at end
- Spend 1/3 of life at work
- Work impacting you or you impacting workplace?
- **Vocation comes from Latin “vocare” – to call or summons.**
- **Do you see work as drudgery or necessary evil?**
What if that’s a broken, non-Biblical, non-Gospel worldview?
BLESSED, BROKEN, REDEEMED is Gospel worldview
- **You’re meant to thrive, productive, yield fruit and increase!!!**
Teacher, doctor, finance, construction, mom, etc. many types of work... if it’s God’s call you’re meant to thrive in it!
- **Are you thriving?**
- I believe people’s **view of work will be transformed.**
I believe workplace environments will be transformed.

5. Message

1) BLESSED

- **Genesis 2:8-9;15**
 - **God put man in garden**
 - till (cultivate, work, serve...)
 - and keep (watch over; steward),
 - yield fruit = pleasant in sight and be food – **to enjoy and be satisfied in**
- **Genesis leaves us with striking truth... work was part of paradise.**
 - **Work preceded the curse...** many people have wrong idea of this!
 - **It was good in its created state** because it was created by a good God and untainted.
- God works (**Ps 104:10-18**) for the joy of it (**Gen 1:31**) – remember we’re created in **His image**.
- Man named the animals
Partnering with God in our work and dominion
- God left creation with deep untapped potential for cultivation
- **Man wasn’t made for work.** Man was made to worship God... work was made for man... to be a blessing!
- **Work should bring joy and purpose. When we serve Him in our work it will fulfill us in a way work for other reasons never can.**
- **Work was not a necessary evil** that came into the picture later on. Like everything in the created world, it was affected by the curse of sin.

2) BROKEN

- Can’t wait for weekend?
Can’t wait to retire?
[Billy Graham “I see nothing in scripture that speaks about retiring and stopping your years of fruitful productivity for God”.](#)
Avoid and endure?
WHY do we see it that way?
- **Genesis 3:17-19**
- Thorns and thistles

- **Curse caused nature and man to become subject to decay. Curse also affected work... (under painful toil v17)**
- *"I am daily aware of the encroachment of thorns and thistles in the patch of the world God has entrusted to me in this season"*
- The enemy is at work in this... attacking our potential to be fruitful for God and bring Him glory
- Weeds in my yard keep coming back LOL. Weeds can be the work you hate, drama around you, etc.
- You may be in the wrong place (dead and barren field) and need a change BUT you may just need to get a new view of work!
- **FRUSTRATED SPIRIT... the worst things come out of our work when we operate from this place!**
- **Genesis 3:22-24 (man was banished from paradise)**
Something needs to be redeemed.

3) REDEEMED

- Redeemed = something broken is eXchanged and restored
 - us with His presence through Jesus is 1st order or redemptive work through the cross.
- We are **redeemed in Christ now and the greater measure is to come.**
 - Minds get transformed.
 - Work can be redeemed now and more is to come.
- **For the redeemed man, work is redeemable.**
- We will work in heaven
 - **Revelation 22:3**
And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.
 - **Isaiah 65:17; 21-25**
17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth;
And the former shall not be remembered or [f]come to mind.
21 They shall build houses and inhabit them;
They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
22 They shall not build and another inhabit;
They shall not plant and another eat;

For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people,
And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labor in vain,

Nor bring forth children for trouble;

For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the Lord,
An their offspring with them.

24 “It shall come to pass

That before they call, I will answer;

And while they are still speaking, I will hear.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,

The lion shall eat straw like the ox,

And dust shall be the serpent’s food.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,”

Says the Lord.

- **mystery** of our work in heaven awaits us
- **the thorns and thistles are gone = fully restored**
- There is a reign described for the saints (our work is triumphant)

- **Hebrews 4:9-10** (cease from own works, rest in Him = emphasis on power of Holy Spirit)

9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

- **Man is restless in his spirit until he finds his rest in Christ.** Jesus is a better Joshua. Joshua tried to lead the people into the promised land to sit down and rest in it but their doubt and disobedience kept them from it. Their enemies became thorns!
- We can sit down and rest in Christ and His promised land purpose for us and live as overcomers and truly let our work be filled with meaning and purpose as we worship Him through it by serving Him and others through our abundant gifts and resources available for that work “calling”.

- **Matthew 11:28-30**

28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am [f]gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

- **Resting in the finished work of Jesus not our own strength...** transforms who we are/what we do/and how we do it!

- Abad is Hebrew word for work many times in OT. English translation can be cultivate, till, work, serve... OR WORSHIP

Exodus 3:12 NIV

And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you[a] will worship (abad) God on this mountain."

- **Work is worship... Marketplace is a worship and witness environment.**
We can effuse Christ's redemptive grace into our workplace
- **The toil and drudgery can be over**
love what you do because of Who you do it for!
- **What is the storyline of our work?**
- **Gospel worldview = Blessed, Broken, Redeemed**
- **1 Corinthians 15:58**
Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
- **WORK IS MEANT TO BE MORE THAN A PAYCHECK!!!** Absolutely NOT a necessary evil!
- Many view work as their **means to survival**; provide for them and family.
THIS IS A **LIMITED VIEW** OF WORK
- **1 Corinthians 10:31 (do all to the glory of God)**
- **To worship... there is no loftier purpose to our work than this!**

6. Close

- What if we view the **marketplace as an institution that is part of God's ordered design?**
- **This is a message about redemption.**
He's our REDEEMER!!!
- Has Jesus redeemed you?
- Has your view of work been redeemed?
- Are you worshipping Him in your work?