

The Message Notes

Message: *God's Work and Money Ethics*

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Text: Genesis 1:1

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Genesis 1:1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
(NKJV)

God's Work Ethics

Introduction: As Christ followers, we need to know what God's **work** and **money ethics** are according to a **biblical worldview (BW)**. God **possessed** a work ethic in the beginning. The Scriptures declare God is the **creator** of heaven and earth, Genesis 1:1.

BW: Our **work ethic** matters to God because we are **united with Him**, so we can continue His works of **creation** and **salvation**.

1. _____ of work – God created the heavens and the earth and restored it from chaos to cosmos for life to exist. Genesis 1:1-5

2. _____ and work – God had **works in mind** when He made the male and female to be **responsible** to continue His works of creation.

- **Relational Works: Marriage: Genesis 2:18.** And the Lord God said, "It is **not good** that man should be alone; I will make him a **helper** comparable to him."

BW: The foundation of **civilization** is **marriage** between a man and a woman who continue creation through procreation (family).

- **Occupational Works: Genesis 2:15.** Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to **tend** (work) and **keep it** (steward/maintain/ oversee).

BW: Occupational Works:

1. Work is united with God and should be done for **His glory**
2. Work has **inherent value** now and in eternity
3. Work is done with **quality, humility, loyalty, and gratefulness.**

4. Work is a **gift** from God for the purpose of serving others

- **Vocational Works:** The call to **follow Christ**, and to do the works of the ministry of reconciliation: 2 Corinthians 5:18, Acts 20:33-35

3. _____ of **work and rest** – God **integrates rest** with His **works** to give us the **rhythm** of life. Genesis 2:1-3

- God **commands** us to **work** and to **rest**.
- God is the **provider** of our **works and rest**.
- God **integrated** His rest with works to establish a **rhythm** of life

“Work is **good** and Rest is **sacred!**”

WHY: Importance of Sabbath – Rest

1. The Sabbath is the **sign** of God’s covenant relationship He made with His creation in the beginning. God establishes the Sabbath with the children of Israel as the 4th Commandment.

2. The Sabbath is not opposite of productivity but a necessity of our functionality to optimize our health, quality of work, and spiritual relationship with God.

3. The Sabbath is God’s rhythm of works and rest. To neglect the Sabbath is to neglect the rhythm of God’s life and our connection with Him.

4. The Sabbath allows us to **enter God’s rest**. God refreshed Himself on the Sabbath and delights in **refreshing** His people.

Hebrews 4:9. There remains therefore a **rest (Sabbath)** 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. (NKJV)

Next Week: God and Money Ethics