

Salt and Light for the King

The 3rd Commandment: Rest and Work

Work

Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your servant woman, and the alien, may be refreshed. (Ex 23:12)

What is Work?

David Miller: “human activity that has both intrinsic and extrinsic value; that involves physical and emotional energy; that can be both tedious and exhilarating; and that often is done out of necessity and in exchange for financial remuneration but also is done out of joy and in return for self-fulfillment and accomplishment.”

Work and Identity (Mark 6:3; Prov 22:29)

Work and Status

Dignity (1 Cor 12:21-26; Col 3:23; Matt 25:14-30)

Impact (Luke 12:48, Eph 5:16, Gen 4:9; Matt 23:23, Mic 6:8)

Corporate Element (Eccl 4:9-12)

God Centered Work (Col 3:23; 2 Thess 3:10)

Work and Frustration (Gen 3:17-19; Rom 8:18-23)



God and Work (The Lord's Prayer)

Providence

Vocation (Matt 25:31-46; 1 Cor 7:17-24)

Work and Rest (Gen 1:1-2:3; Ex 20:9-10)

God is more than His work (and so are we)

Work is good (Gen 1:26; 2:15; John 4:34)

Rest is a gift, not a reward

Work and rest from God (Eccl 2:24-25)

Work and rest imitate God (Eph 5:15-16)

Overwork (work as an idol)

External – pay, benefits, job security (Ps 90:17; 127:1-2; 1 Cor 15:58)

Internal – conspicuous consumption (Eccl 5:10-12)

Consequences – fatigue, stimulants, guilt, procrastination

Sloth (Prov 6:6-11; 10:4-5; 20:4)

Rest from One's Calling

Good vs. Bad Work

- Meets Needs (2 Thess 3:10; 1 Tim 5:8)
- Talent (Rom 12:3-8; 1 Pet 4:10)
- Direction (John 15:1-8)
- Disciplined Effort
- Social Appraisal?