

On Purpose, 3

“God is Working”

Intro: God’s kingdom is both **NOW** and still **TO COME**.

- God is at work saving people; society and creation
- How is He working?

A. Church (people)

B. Government (society/communities)

C. Vocations (creation)

A. CHURCH – GREEK = EKKLESIA “The called out ones”

We are called **out** to go back **into** (Not of **BUT** in)

We are the body of Christ on earth

Stewards of the message of the Kingdom (God’s rule and reign)

(Matthew 5) Salt of the earth (Greek) = SOIL

Light of the world (Greek) = Orderly Arrangement

GOD’S LOVE FOR PEOPLE – Forgiveness, mercy, reconciliation with God, peace with God...

(II Corinthians 5:17-20)

Spiritual battle for the souls of men (I Corinthians 4:1)...ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God

B. GOVERNMENT – Established by God (Genesis 9)

Authority delegated by God to man to rule in order to maintain order and social stability

GOD’S LOVE FOR COMMUNITY (Civil Society)

Romans 13:1-6 (KJV)

1. verse 3 “a terror to evil” (restrain evil)
2. verse 4 “A minister to me for good” (protect us)
3. verse 4 “Execute wrath on those who do evil” (punish criminals)

I Timothy 2:1-4 (KJV) ...that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

[Romans 13 – 3 times the word “minister” was used]

Verse 4 – (2 times) Greek - 1249 “A Christian teacher or Pastor”

Verse 6 – (1 time) Greek – 3011 “Public servant”

- Romans 15:8 – Jesus was a minister (Greek 1249)
- Romans 15:15-16 – Paul was a minister (Greek 3011)
- I Corinthians 3:5 – Paul and Apollos were ministers (Greek 1249)
- II Corinthians 3:6 – Paul was an able minister (Greek 1249)
(I Peter 4:10-11 – manifold grace to minister)

C. VOCATIONS – (Work) Greek – 2821 “calling”

Ephesians 4:1 & 28 (KJV)

Original mandate on Adam (Genesis 2)

God’s love FOR ALL OF CREATION

- Work is God’s image in man
- Work is worship to God

*In work we celebrate our stewardship of Time / Talents / Treasures

*In work we integrate faith and labor

PROBLEM: False concepts of – Laity vs Clergy / Secular vs Sacred / Carnal vs Spiritual

