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Work as Worship

The Redemption of Work Through the Gospel

Redemptive Historical Narrative

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- New Creation

“The expenditure of physical or
mental energy to produce
sustenance and culture”

— Baker Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical
Theology

“Work is the expenditure of energy
(manual or mental or both in the
service of others, which brings
fulfillment to the worker, benefit
to the community, and glory to
God”

— John Stott

“In the beginning, God created the
heavens and the earth”

— Genesis 1:1

“Let us make man in our images
after our likeness...”

“And God blessed them. And God
said to them, ‘Be fruitful and
multiply and fill the earth and
subdue it, and have dominion...”

— Genesis 1:26-28

“The Lord God took the man and
put him in the garden of Eden to
work it and keep it.”

— Genesis 2:15

“Work is a pre-fall
blessing, not a post-fall
curse.”

— Pastor John Bryson

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commands depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

— Matthew 22:37-40



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“Whatever you do, work
heartily, as for the Lord and
not for men.”

— Colossians 3:23



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"...cursed is the ground because
of you; in pain you shall eat of it
all the days of your life; thorns
and thistles it shall bring forth
for you..."

— Genesis 3:17-18

4 areas in which sin curses
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- Identity

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- Purpose of work

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- Extreme perspectives
 - Idol
 - Idle

4 areas in which the Gospel redeems work:

- Identity
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- Extreme perspectives
 - Idol
 - Idle

“For you know the grace of
our Lord Jesus Christ, that
though he was rich, yet for
your sake he became poor, so
that you by his poverty
might become rich.”

— 2 Corinthians 8:9

4 areas in which the Gospel redeems work:

- Identity
- Purpose of work
- Sacred/secular divide
- Extreme perspectives
 - Idol
 - Idle

“There is not a square in in
the whole domain of our
human existence over which
Christ, who is Sovereign over
all, does not cry, ‘Mine!’”

— Abraham Kuyper

“For by Him all things were
created, in heaven and on
earth, visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions
or rulers or authorities - all
things were created through
Him and for Him.”

— Colossians 1:16



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4 types of work:

- Creative
- Sustaining
- Redemptive
- Consummating/finishing



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“No longer will there be
anything accursed, but the
throne of God and of the
Lamb will be in it, and his
servants will worship Him.”

— Revelation 22:3



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