

Sloth: The Sin That Ignores Calling

Al Gascon | November 9, 2025

“There is a deeper inner motivation to (sloth) that, at its core, is a defective love. Biblically speaking, sloth is laziness that comes from carelessness about the commands and priorities of God, a lack of love for God and His ways that undermines a biblical doctrine of vocation (Judg. 18:9; Eccl. 10:18; Matt. 25:26, KJV).” —Joe Holland

Exodus 20:8-11

Exodus 34:21

Deuteronomy 5:15

- God commanded work, deemed work valuable, and modeled it by being a working God.

“A twentieth-century person needs to be reminded at times that work is not the result of the Fall. Man was made to work, because the God who made him was a “working God.” Man was made to be creative, with his mind and his hands. Work is part of the dignity of his existence.” — Sinclair Ferguson

Proverbs 18:9

*“Laziness is **theft** – you live off the work of others. Laziness is **selfishness** – you live for yourself and comfort. Laziness is **neglect of duty** – you don’t do what you should.” — David Guzik*

- The Sin of Sloth is deadly because it slowly destroys the people and things you care for.

Proverbs 26:13-16

- The Sin of Sloth is deadly because it disregards the commands of God.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10

- The Sin of Sloth is deadly because it all but abandons the work of the Kingdom.

Ecclesiastes 10:18

- Slothfulness leads to complacency instead of contentment.

Discussion Questions:

- a. When you think of a slothful person, what’s the very first image that pops into your mind?
- b. Have you ever worked with or been around a slothful person? How did they affect the things and people around them?
- c. Take some time to think this one through: If God were slothful, how would the miracles and stories in the Bible change?
- d. If God were slothful, how would that affect your life personally?
- e. What can you do to begin to see work as a blessed “get to” rather than a cursed “have to” or “don’t want to?”