

*Take This Job*  
**Work as Worship**

**How to love what you do!**

- Is it possible to love your work?
- Work is not only to bring you profit, it can also bring you pleasure.
- Eccl. 5:18 – *“I have seen what is best for people here on earth. They should eat and drink and enjoy their work...” (NCV)*

**I thought the Bible said that work is a curse**

Gen. 3:17-19

<sup>17</sup> Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: **“Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.”** <sup>18</sup> Both **thorns and thistles it shall <sup>6</sup>bring forth for you,** And you shall eat the herb of the field. <sup>19</sup> In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread.

Gen. 2:15

Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden **to tend and keep it.**

- Most of the time in the Bible, the Hebrew word here for “tend” means “to serve”. What was Adam serving? (God, not the garden).

**How is work ‘worship’?**

“worship” = ‘*offering to God what belongs to Him*’

Does this include your work? (we ‘segment’ our lives today in an un Biblical fashion)

Col. 3:22-24

<sup>22</sup> *Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.* <sup>23</sup> *And whatever you do, do it **heartily**, as to the Lord and not to men,* <sup>24</sup> *knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; **for you serve the Lord Christ.***

The economic engine that built Western civilization and especially the United States comes from “the Protestant work ethic”.

### Take the test - how to tell if your work is worship or not

- Is compromise optional?

*Prov. 2:7 - He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,*

- Is giving optional?

*Prov. 3:9-10 - 9 Honor the LORD with your possessions and with the first produce of your entire harvest; 10 then your barns will be completely filled, and your vats will overflow with new wine.*

- Is excellence optional?

*Prov. 12:24 - The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor.*

- Is servicing optional?

*Matt. 20:28 - the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,*

Kahlil Gibran, "*Work is love made visible.*"

- Is your witness optional?

*I Cor. 9:22 – I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some*

- Are you attempting life in your own strength?

*Eph. 6:10 - be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*

If this is happening, even the best job can become drudgery.

Do the other areas of your worship life suffer as a result of your work?

We will be talking about some of these in this series.

### Response

Do I believe God wants to bless my work life?

It starts with Rom. 12:1 - *So brothers and sisters, since God has shown us great mercy, I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him. Your offering must be only for God and pleasing to him, which is the spiritual way for you to worship. (NCV)*

(... "which is your **reasonable** service" – NKJV)

You can't work 'unto the Lord' if you don't know Him (the first step).