

Everybody's Working: A Theology of Work

Genesis 1 – Revelation 22

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1. Work in the garden. (Delight)

Genesis 1:1-5, 26-28.

- a. God created order and goodness from wild and waste for human flourishing.
- b. God created humans in His image.
- c. One aspect of bearing God's image is working to create order and goodness from chaos for the good of those around us and for God's glory. This was intended to be a delight.

2. Work outside the garden. (Exile)

Genesis 3:17-19, Jeremiah 29:4-7, Proverbs 11:10, Colossians 3:23-24

- a. Humans decided to step outside of the role and position God put them in, resulting in exile from Eden and work no longer being a delight.
- b. Even in exile God still calls humans to image Him by bringing order and goodness from the chaos throughout the rest of the Bible.
- c. God is shaping our relationships and character through our work.

3. Work in the new Garden. (Eternity)

Revelation 21:1-5, 22:1-3.

- a. A new heaven and a new earth – Jesus is making all things new NOT all new things.
- b. All of the effects of the curse in Genesis 3 are undone.
- c. We will serve our King forever and return to Eden like circumstances.

Application:

- a. Pray the Lord's Prayer 5 times this week. (Matthew 6:9-13)
- b. What chaos is around you that you can work some good in for those around you and for God's glory?
- c. How might God be shaping your character and integrity in the reality of exile you are in?
- d. What future reality do you desire to pull into the here and now?