

The Wise Worker

Selected Scriptures

January 16, 2021

Faith Builders

Proverbs Purpose:

“To know wisdom and instruction in order to skillfully interpret and navigate life situations to achieve godly outcomes.”

- Start working at 21
- Stop working at 65
- Total Years Worked – 44 Years
- Total Working Days – 10, 824 Days
- 8 Hours a Day amounts to 90,000 Hours (approx.)

Question: Should you work hard?

Answer: 80% said Yes

Question: Do you work hard?

Answer: 16% said Yes.

Outline

I. Before We Work

II. While We Work

III. After We Work

I. Before We Work

A. What is Work?

Webster's Dictionary:

“to exert oneself physically or mentally especially in sustained effort for a purpose or under compulsion or necessity”

I. Before We Work

A. What is Work?

“engaging in physical or mental activity in order to
achieve a purpose or result”

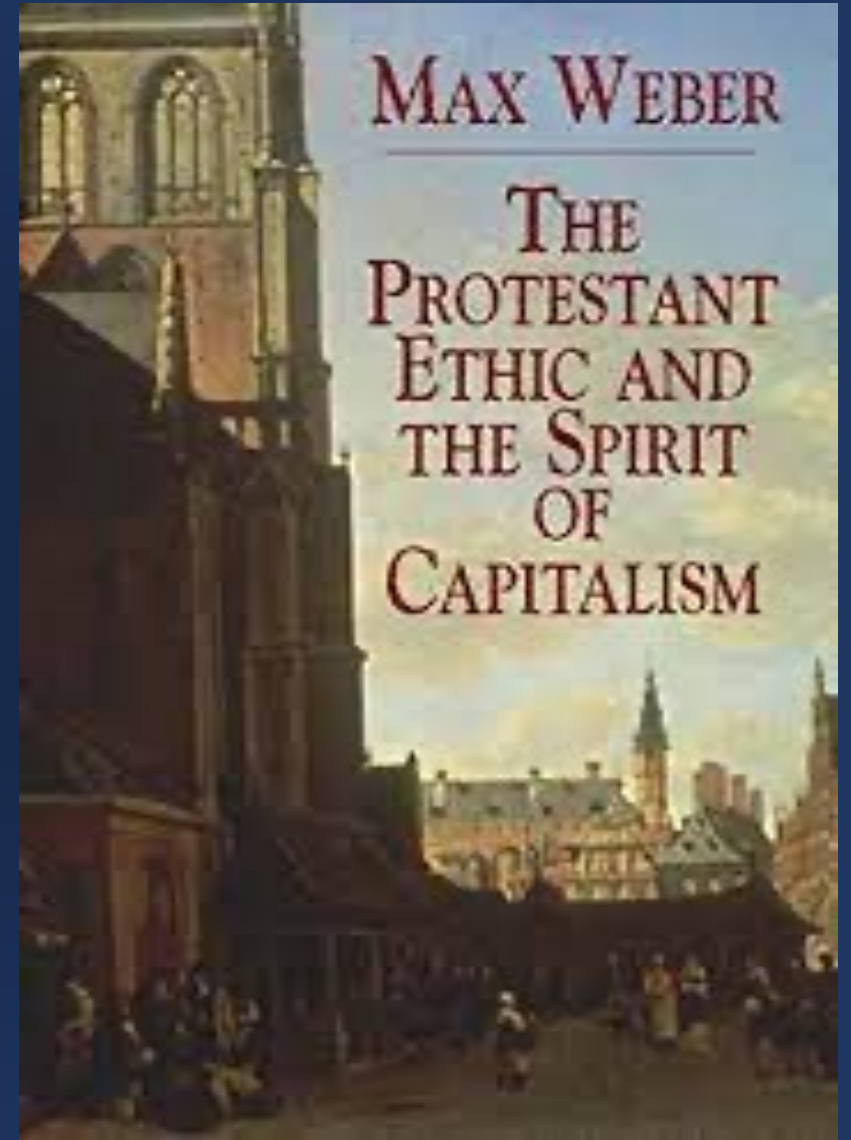
I. Before We Work

A. What is Work?

B. Work was Instituted by God before Fall (Gen. 2:15)

C. God himself works (Gen. 1; Job 38-42)

D. All work is done in service to the Lord (Col. 3:23-24)



I. Before We Work

- A. What is Work?
- B. Work was Instituted by God before Fall (Gen. 2:15)
- C. God himself is involved in work (Gen. 1; Job 38-42)
- D. All work is done in service to the Lord (Col. 3:23-24)
- E. Work allows us to provide for ourself, our family and for others in need (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:10)

II. While We Work

A. Our work is to bring glory to God (1 Cor. 10:31; Prov. 16:3)

“...in everything we do and say, no matter how insignificant, the world should be able to see that we are God’s people.”

Simon J. Kistemaker and William Hendriksen, [*Exposition of the First Epistle to the Corinthians*](#), vol. 18, New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1953–2001), 358.

II. While We Work

A. Our work is to bring glory to God (1 Cor. 10:31; Prov. 16:3)

B. Our work is to be done with Integrity

1. The meaning of Integrity: “Whole, complete, unified or undivided”
2. It is to be the very foundation of our character (Prov. 11:13, 20:7,21:3)
3. It is to be focused on doing the right things the right way (Prov. 4:25-27)
4. It is to be found in our speech, our work and our business practices

II. While We Work

Speech:

- **Proverbs 12:22 (NASB95)**

“Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal faithfully are His delight.”

- **Proverbs 21:6 (NASB95)**

“The acquisition of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor, the pursuit of death.”

II. While We Work

Work:

- Proverbs 21:3 (NASB95)

“To do righteousness and justice is desired by the LORD more than sacrifice.”

II. While We Work

Business Practices:

- **Proverbs 11:1 (NASB95)**

“A false balance is an abomination to the LORD, But a just weight is His delight.”

- **2 Corinthians 5:9–10 (NASB95)**

“Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

II. While We Work

- A. Our work is to bring glory to God (1 Cor. 10:31; Prov. 16:3)
- B. Our work is to be done with Integrity
- C. Our work is to be done with Diligence

II. While We Work

C. Our work is to be done with Diligence

1. The meaning of Diligence

“one who quietly and steadily perseveres in the work or the task he or she has especially focusing on the details.”

II. While We Work

C. Our work is to be done with Diligence

1. The meaning of Diligence
2. The contrast between the Non-Diligent and the Diligent
 - a. Lazy vs. Hardworking (Prov. 24:30-33)

“Laziness in Proverbs is more than a character flaw; it is a moral issue, for it leads to a loss of freedom, the perpetual frustration of getting nowhere, and a loss of life”

II. While We Work

C. Our work is to be done with Diligence

1. The meaning of Diligence

2. The contrast between the Non-Diligent and the Diligent

a. Lazy vs. Hardworking (Prov. 24:30-33)

b. Lacks Initiative vs. Takes Initiative (Prov. 6:7-8; Prov. 31:21)

c. Procrastinates vs. Plans Ahead (Prov. 6:7-8)

d. Makes Excuses vs. Takes Responsibility (Prov. 12:11, 19:24, 26:13)

e. Know it all vs. Teachable (Prov. 9:8-9, 26:16)

III. After We Work

A. Evaluate (2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Tim. 4:16; Ps. 90:12)

B. Continue to Hone Your Skills (Prov. 4:7, 16:16)

C. Rest (Gen. 2:2; Prov. 16:9, 21:31; Mark 4:26-29; Ps. 127:1-2)