

“Work and Labor”

Various Verses

The Hebrew word for work is Avodah - referring to works of God and man

The Greek word for work is – Ergon - literally meaning works, normal and natural to God & Christ, believers, unbelievers and the devil.

Avodah is used around 624 times in Old Test & Ergon 169 times in the New Testament

I. The Concept of God as a Worker – from the beginning of creation Gen 1 & 2

Psalm 19:1 says, “ _____ are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is _____ the _____ of His hands.”

a. God’s work is _____ never _____ Psalm 121:2-4

b. God’s work is _____, _____ and it is _____

d. God works in 4 arenas –

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

e. Work for man ____ the result of the fall.

f. The fall _____ cancel God’s command to work, but instead made it harder for man to accomplish and survive.

II. The Concept of Human Work –

a. it now requires toil – Gen 3:17-19

b. must be accomplished to survive

III. God’s Purposes in Ordaining Work -

a. man is to be self-supporting

b. man is to find self-fulfillment in his work

c. our labor should be bringing or giving glory to God

IV. Viewing work as an Ordinance of God -

- a. as a moral duty
- b. as God's calling
- c. as a stewardship from God

V. The Concept of Frustration –

APPLICATION:

- 1. Be careful not to compare our job or our work with someone else's; instead recognize that we all have an important part to play in our work. –**
- 2. Be diligent not to compromise your values, do your work according to God's standards not the world's. - Prov 3:5-6**
- 3. Remember God cares about our work – pray and ask for His favor.** He uses our work to build His kingdom for His glory. So, remember to pray about your work every day, asking for God's favor.

Psalm 90:17

“Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; and confirm for us the work of our hands, yes confirm the work of our hands.”