

Labor Days

Gen 2:15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. *(Not by the sweat of his brow either.)*

Gen 3:17 And unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; 19 **In the sweat of thy face** shalt thou eat bread, **till thou return** unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world *(and thus labors)*, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

- Work is a consequence of Adam's sin. Although we are not being punished for what Adam did, we still suffer the consequences because of it but also enjoy it's fruit.

Ecc 3:13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it *is* the gift of God.

So why do we labor physically?

So that we can help others *(even those who are less fortunate)*.

Eph 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, **that he may have to give to him that needeth.**

- Even though we are to work with our hands to take care of the needs of others and/or our families, we are not to do so to the point of forgetting where our focus should really be.

Mat 6:33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

1Ti 5:8 But if any **provide not for his own**, and specially for those of his own house, he hath **denied the faith**, and is worse than an infidel.

To not provide for his family is akin to denying the faith. Nonbelievers, knowing a person is a **Christian**, will see their work ethic and compare it to their own. As **Christians** we should do those things that are expected of us and even exceed them.

So as not to be a burden on others.

2Th 3:7 For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 8 Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but

wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: 9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. 10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.** 11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. 13 But ye, brethren, **be not weary in well doing.**

Act 18:3 And because he (*Paul*) was of the same craft, he abode with them (*Aquila and Pricilla*), and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

Why do we labor spiritually?

So as to separate ourselves from others (*other Christians?*).

Mat 21:28 But what think ye? A *certain* man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. 29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. 30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. 31 Whether of them twain did the will of *his* father? They say unto Him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen *it*, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

- The chief priests and elders of the people "acted" as though they were doing the will of God but were not, thus were like the first son. The second son, even though disobedient at first, repented and then did his Father's will. Jesus likened the tax collectors and harlots who obeyed after the second son.

Mat 23:3 ... they say, and do not. (*Scribes and Pharisees*)

Tit 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able **by sound doctrine** both to **exhort** and to **convince the gainsayers** (*Gk.483-to dispute, refuse, contradict*).

So as to not bring reproach on the church.

2Co 6:1 We then, *as* workers together *with Him*, beseech *you* also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. 2 (For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.) 3 **Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:** 4 But in all *things* approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, 5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; 6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, 7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right

hand and on the left, 8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report (*from those outside the faith*) and good report: as (*so called*) deceivers, and *yet* true; 9 As unknown (*by those who have not yet heard*), and *yet* well known (*we don't disguise our selves, we are not ashamed of the gospel*); as dying (*to the world*), and, behold, we live (*for Christ*); as chastened (*subject to trials*), and not killed (*by God's intervention*); 10 As sorrowful (*because of sin*), yet always rejoicing (*because of the cure for it*); as poor (*not having the comforts of this life*), yet making many rich (*those who obeyed their message obtained the treasure of eternal life*); as having nothing (*they had left all*), and *yet* possessing all things (*the inheritance of Heaven*).

To obey God.

Joh 6:28 Then said they unto Him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him Whom He hath sent.**

- "Believe" here is the same Greek word that Paul used when addressing the Romans concerning Abraham's faith.

Rom 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

This belief is a commitment, an *entrusting one's spiritual well being to Christ*. If the work of God is to believe in His Son and Christ says in order to be saved we are to obey His words then we must entrust our souls to His word and do as His word says.

Joh 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they are spirit, and they are life.*

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made a quickening spirit.*

The great commission.

Mar 16:15 And He said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel** to every creature. 16 He that believeth **and is baptized** shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mat 28:19 **Go ye therefore, and teach** all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 **Teaching them** to observe **all** things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

So that others might be saved.

1Co 9:19 For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I **might gain the more.**

Php 1:12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things *which happened* unto me have fallen out rather unto **the furtherance of the gospel**; **13** So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other *places*; **14** And many of the brethren in the Lord, **waxing confident** by my bonds, **are much more bold to speak** the word without fear.

2Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with **all longsuffering** and doctrine.

Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, **21** Make you **perfect in every good work to do His will**, working in you that which is wellpleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

2Pe 3:9 ... not willing that any should perish, but that **all should come to repentance**.

To receive the reward.

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is **not in vain in the Lord**. (*It has a reward attached to it!*)

Mat 11:28 Come unto Me, all *ye that labour and are heavy laden*, and **I will give you rest**. **29** Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find **rest unto your souls**. **30** For My yoke *is* easy, and My burden is light.

2Ti 4:5 But watch (*Gk.3525-be sober*) thou in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work** of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. **6** For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. **7** **I have fought** a good fight, **I have finished** *my* course, **I have kept** the faith: **8** **Henceforth** (*Gk.3063-something remaining*) there is laid up for me a **crown of righteousness**, which **the Lord**, the righteous judge, **shall give me** at that day: and not to me only, but unto **all them also that love His appearing**.

- To look forward to **Christ's second (and last) coming** is to look forward to our eternal reward. How can a person look forward to something he didn't labor for? **Jesus is called the "righteous judge"** because **He will reward everyone for their labor (or lack thereof) when He comes**.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were **judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works**. **13** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell (*Hades*) delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged **every man according to their works**.

Heb 4:10 For he that is **entered into his rest**, he also **hath ceased** from his own works, as God *did* from His. 11 Let us **labour** therefore to **enter into that rest**, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Jas 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a **doer of the work**, this man **shall be blessed** in his deed.

Jas 2:12 So speak ye, and **so do**, as they that shall be judged by the **law of liberty**.

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may **rest from their labours**; and their works do follow them.

- From our works, others too can find rest even after we die.

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that **he was righteous**, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he **being dead yet speaketh**.

Col 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and (*even*) the Father by Him.

1Th 1:3 Remembering without ceasing your **work of faith**, and **labour of love**, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

Heb 6:10 For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your **work and labour of love**, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that **ye have ministered** to the saints, and **do minister** (*Gk.1247-to be an attendant, wait upon, serve*).

What was Jesus' labor?

Joh 9:4 I must **work the works of Him that sent Me**, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. (*Jesus continues to be the light of the world through His body, the church.*)

Luk 19:10 For the Son of man is come **to seek and to save that which was lost**.

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come **that they might have life**, and that they might have *it* **more abundantly**.

Joh 17:4 I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have **finished the work** which Thou gavest Me to do.

Joh 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar (*He wanted to clear His throat because He had something very important to say!*), He said, **It is finished**: and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost.

- **Jesus** finished the work **He** was sent to do. That work, to glorify **God** and to save sinners, is to be continued by **His** body, the church, as our **labor days** continue.

If you have heard the word of truth, believe that **Jesus** came to the earth to be offered as the perfect sacrifice for sins, repented of your own sin, confessed that **Jesus** truly is the son of **God**, then you need to have those sins washed away. Don't you want to obey the command of **Jesus** to be baptized (*Mat 28:19-20, Romans 6*) and live for **Him** for the rest of your life?

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