

# GOD'S VIEW ON WORK HANDOUT (1 HR)

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022

## AIMS OF THIS SESSION:

- (1) Introduce the Tick & the Cross Illustration as a means to understand God's Salvation plan and where we fit within it.
- (2) Journey through the Bible to develop an understanding of work in Creation, de-creation, re-creation & New Creation



## PART I: CREATED FOR WORK:

- We are made in His Image & likeness (Genesis 1:26-27):
  - o Relational
  - o Responsibility
  - o Rational
  - o Real
- Creation Mandate – Be Fruitful, Increase, Fill, Subdue & Rule (Genesis 1:28):
- Caring for and naming the animals (Genesis 2:9-10, 19-20):

“In the beginning, then, God worked. Work was not a necessary evil that came into the picture later, or something human beings were created to do but that was beneath the great God himself. No, God worked for the sheer joy of it.”

**Tim Keller, Every Good Endeavour**

## PART II: THE IMPACT OF THE FALL:

- The image of God in us is marred / distorted (Genesis 3:17-19):
  - o Relational
  - o Responsibility
  - o Rational
  - o Real

- Everything is meaningless (Ecclesiastes 2:17-26):

### **PART III: REDEEMING OUR WORK – GOOD AND WRONG WAYS OF WORKING**

- Wholehearted service to the Lord (Colossians 3:17, 22-25, Ephesians 6:5-9):
  
- Impacting the people around us (Titus 2:9-10 & 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12):

*“The question regarding our choice of work is no longer “What will make me the most money and give me the most status?” The question must now be “How, with my existing abilities and opportunities, can I be of greatest service to other people, knowing what I do of God’s will and of human need?”*

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- Idolatry and Idleness (1 Tim 6:6-10 & 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13):
  
- Lessons from Jesus (Luke 12:13-21 & 18:18-30):

### **PART IV: WORK IN THE NEW CREATION (Revelation 21-22):**

- Will we work in the New Creation (Romans 8:19-22, Galatians 3:13):
  
- The Nature of work (Luke 19:11-27, Isaiah 65:17-25):

*The work on the other side, whatever be its character, will be adapted to each ones’ special aptitude and powers. It will be the work he can do best, the work that will give the fullest play to all that is within him.*

**James Campbell, Heaven Opened**

- Continuity vs Discontinuity:

*“In all our work, we will be able to envision far more than we can accomplish, both because of a lack of ability and because of resistance in the environment around us...[however] our deepest aspirations in work will come to complete fruition in God’s future.”*

**Tim Keller, Every Good Endeavour**