

Lesson 2: Work in Redemptive History

Introduction: Psalm 8 – The Universal Rule of Man

I. The Beginning:

Genesis 1:26-28 – the Dominion Mandate: God made man in His image to:

1. Subdue the creatures
2. Rule over the earth

This implies management of all God's creatures

Genesis 2:5ff – this is before man sinned:

- (1) God sets man to work: implies: work is not a punishment, but a privilege
- (2) There is a potential in God's creation that God intends for you to bring out (example: breeding)
Cf. Form and Fullness
- (3) Our problem: sin brought a curse on our work; leads to: unto death

Think of you work as a vocation = a calling

Application:

1. Lord, what have you created me to work upon and bring about? What is my calling?
2. What aspect of God's creation is awaiting my hands to form and fill? Both young men and young women need to know this for a unified marriage? Who will help me? Who will I help?

Be aware – you may first have to do menial “jobs” (see also: Lamentations 3:27) in order to later work in your vocation

II. The End:

Ecclesiastes 4:4-6 – remember though, work on earth is vain

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 – do not make this world first priority

Matthew 6:33 – seek first the kingdom of God

Note: Titus 2 fits our temporal callings in the flow and service of the eternal word.

Conclusion: Psalm 8 – Christ fulfills the Dominion Mandate – our work is an echo of His work.

When we work, we promote worship. Even though it is vain, it is still meaningful.

When we work, we store away expertise, which could possibly be used in the New Heaven and Earth.