

“A Sacred Service”

We sometimes speak in terms of the “secular” and the “sacred.” However, for the believer, work is a sacred service. Whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do - we are doing it as to the Lord. (I Cor. 10:31, Col. 3:17).

I Timothy 6:1-2

- I. Serving a _____ - _____ master (6:1)
- II. Serving a _____ master (6:2)

Ephesians 6:5-8 / Colossians 3:22-25

- I. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- II. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- III. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- IV. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- V. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- VI. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- VII. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- VIII. Believers are to serve their employers _____.
- IX. Believers are to serve their employers _____.

To call popes, bishops, priests, monks, and nuns the religious class, but princes, lords, artisans, and farm-workers the secular class, is a specious devise . . . For all Christians whatsoever really and truly belong to the religious class, and there is no difference among them except in so far as they do different work . . . Hence we deduce that there is, at bottom, really no other difference between, in Romanist terminology, religious and secular. All have spiritual status, and all are truly priests, bishops, and popes. But Christians do not all follow the same occupation . . . A shoemaker, a smith, a farmer, each has his manual occupation and work; and yet, at the same time, all are eligible to act as priests and bishops. Every one of them in his occupation or handicraft ought to be useful to his fellows, and serve them in such a way that the various trades are all directed to the best advantage of the community, and promote the well-being of the body and soul, just as all the organs of the body serve each other. (Martin Luther)

If a Christian slave dishonored his master in any way by disobedience, by acting disrespectfully, by speaking shamefully of his master, the worst consequence would not be the beating he would receive but the curses he would cause his master to hurl at this miserable slave's God, his religion, and the teaching he had embraced: [saying] “So that is what this new religion teaches its converts!” Instead of bringing honor to the true God and the gospel of His high and holy Name, as every Christian should be anxious to do, this slave would bring about the very opposite, to the Devil's delight. (R. C. H. Lenski)