

Introduction:

"Our materialistic, self-indulgent, adolescent culture has a warped view of the place and role of work – and sadly, so does the average believer!"

I. A View Of Work Is A View Of Work

- As Solomon looks at life and work, we see that he asks a series of questions:

Ecclesiastes 1:3; 2:11, 18, 22; 2:23; 3:9; 4:4, 5-7; 4:8; 5:15-16; 6:7

"Obviously this is a very cynical, jaded view of work. Even the questions themselves show something of the cynicism in his own heart as he looks at work with the wrong perspective."

II. A View Of Work Is A View Of Work

- To have a high view of work then, it must be viewed in at least three ways:

A. Work must be viewed as a from

- Ecclesiastes 2:24; 3:13; 5:19-20

"Work is not some kind of a sub-standard, secondary, lesser activity which is meant to do nothing but finance pleasure."

1) Work is a means of providing , or to life.

- Ecclesiastes 2:10; 5:18

"The person who performs at the highest level of skill in whatever it is that he or she does can stand back with pride and say, 'I made that, I did that, I accomplished that.'"

2) Work prevents us from , which is spiritually very

- Ecclesiastes 3:10

"Work is God's plan to give us something meaningful to do. It occupies us in meaningful tasks rather than leaving us idle to do those things which are harmful."

3) Work is a means of for the of life.

- Ecclesiastes 9:9

- In an agrarian culture, work was the means of getting _____. In our culture, it's the means of getting the _____ to get the food.
- Genesis 2:15; 3:17-19

B. Work must be view as a _____ of _____

- Ecclesiastes 11:6; Exodus 20:9-10

God's _____ for man is _____!

- *How the responsibility of work bears upon different areas of life:*

1) Work and our _____ life (II Thessalonians 3:10-15)

- *Working to earn a living _____ and _____ physical life.*

2) Work and our _____ life (I Timothy 5:8)

- Psalm 104:28 - **God _____ and we _____!**

3) Work and our _____ life (Ecclesiastes 9:10; Colossians 3:23-24)

- *Work is a _____ effort with a _____.*

C. Work must be viewed as the _____ of _____

- Ecclesiastes 3:11, 14; 7:13; 8:17
- *God's work can be divided into five categories:*

- 1) The work of _____.
- 2) He is the _____ and _____ of all that He has created.
- 3) The work of God in _____.
- 4) God's work in _____.
- 5) God's work in _____.

Conclusion:

Our attitude can make work a _____ or a _____!