

Pastor Ron Case
9/1/13

“Labor Day”

“We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.” (John 9:4)

The Purpose for Our Service

Exodus 33:1-3, 12-16 – (1) “The LORD said to Moses, ‘Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, To your offspring I will give it. (2) I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. (3) Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people. (12) “Moses said to the LORD, ‘See, you say to me, Bring up this people, but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight. (13) Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.’ (14) And he said, ‘My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’ (15) And he said to him, ‘If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. (16) For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?’”

God-Centered Labor

Hebrews 4:9-11 – (9) “So then, there remains a Sabbath rest (*repose*) for the people of God, (10) for whoever has entered God’s rest (*to cease & desist*) from his works as God did from his. (11) Let us therefore strive (*use speed, make effort, labor*) to enter that rest...”

Matthew 11:28-30 – (28) “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (30) For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Prayer: May all that I do help me to know You
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Considerations:

(1) Distinguish between Primary & Secondary Service

“What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.” (Psalm 116:12-14)

(2) Beware Futile Labor Disguised in Religious Clothing

“If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— ‘Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch’ ...according to human precepts and teachings? These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.”

(Colossians 2:20-23)

(3) Do all things Unto the Lord

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23-24)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

What is the true service of a Christian? (Rom. 12:1; James 4:8; Heb. 4:16)

Do I tend to revert to dead works with a religious tint? (Heb. 9:14; Amos 5:21; Luke 11:42)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)