



Lesson #9: How to be a Godly Worker (1 Peter 2:18-25)

In verse 13 of chapter 2 and moving on into the first part of chapter 3 we see a specific theme being developed by Peter. That theme is _____.

1. Submission to _____ (2:13-17)
2. Submission to _____ (2:18-25)
3. Submission at _____ (3:1-6)

Submission is not a popular theme in our generation regardless of which facet of submission we consider. In today's text we read how servants are challenged to be in subjection to their masters.

What does God expect of us at work? When it comes to the topic of work we need to remember that work is introduced to us in the very first verses of Genesis. The Bible tells us that the God we serve is a _____ (Genesis 2:2). From the beginning both the creator and His creation were there to _____ (Genesis 2:15). God knew that psychologically, and emotionally, and spiritually for Adam and Eve to have enjoyment in life they needed responsibility to be placed upon them. They needed to work. It is precisely for this reason that work should matter to you. **Because you are created in God's image any sphere of work takes on a _____.**

YOU ARE _____ TO WORK (2:18)

This passage begins with an exhortation to work.

- A. Submit to your boss because it is your _____**
Peter says that "servants" are to be subject. The use of "servant" here speaks to a distinct servant. There is the Greek word *δοῦλος* which speaks of a common slave, but the Greek word here is *οἰκέται* which speaks of one who works in the house. Historically you need to know as you read this text that Peter is writing it the time of the Roman Empire and fully _____ of the Roman Empire at that time were slaves. Some of those servants who were household slaves saw the movements and inconsistencies of their masters firsthand. Peter says that you are to be _____ even when your boss is not _____.
- B. Submit to your boss because it is your _____ fear**
Peter says we are to obey our masters with the same awe that we have towards _____ Himself.

YOU CAN HAVE _____ IN YOUR WORK (2:19-20)

This passage also gives us an _____ for it is true that there are times that we find ourselves exasperated in the workplace.

- A. God is going to _____ you (v. 19)**
When you obey and submit to your boss Peter says, "this is thankworthy." That is the Greek word *χάρις* which means "_____." When we surrender ourselves to our masters, bosses and employers it is then that God's grace becomes _____.
- B. God is going to _____ you (v. 20)**
Someone has said that every Christian worker needs to know the 3 "E's" of a godly worker.
1. _____ (Romans 12:1)
 2. _____ (Colossians 3:23)
 3. _____ (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- Christian workers ought to be the very best workers.

YOU MUST _____ JESUS IN YOUR WORK (2:21-25)

At the end of the text we come to the part that ought to be most dear. For here we read of the ultimate _____ that Jesus sets before us.

- A. Jesus suffered _____**
He who was by incarnation prophet, priest, and king entered his public ministry at 30 and found himself often to be the subject of _____. Yet through it all He never spoke a single word of wrong. The model of the Lord while managing his workmanship, according to this text, was to suffer silently.
- B. Jesus suffered _____**
In verses 22, 23, and 24 Peter makes three statements about Jesus. Each of these statements begins with the word "_____." These three lines are taken from a hymn based on the verses of Isaiah 53. Peter uses these lines to show that Jesus suffered innocently; and that while suffering innocently, Jesus exhibited _____ and suffered without any threat of retaliation. While this text in 1 Peter 2 is amazing when considering the truths of our redemption it is really here to provide a motivation for all those who find themselves _____ in the workplace.

Concluding Thoughts

Most of your life will be spent at work. For many of us, a large portion of our days will be spent there; in fact, the average person will spend _____ hours at work over a lifetime. What a joy it is to remember that we have been left an example that we would follow in his steps. Our prayer today must be that even in the workplace we would be found _____.