Introduction: Man has the need to know what he does matter. **Ecclesiastes 1:3 What profit has a man from all his labor In which he toils under the sun?** The Christian has been redeemed from a life of sin, without purpose, to one that is full of purpose. The Christian has been redeemed to do the Lord’s work.

**I) What Is “The Lord’s Work?”**

**A) In one sense everything the Christian does is to be the Lord’s work.**

1. As husbands/wives/children/neighbors, etc. we are to perform our duties as servants of God.

2. We cannot separate our lives into religious and secular.

**Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.**

**B) In another sense certain things done by the Christian are designated as “the work of the Lord” .**

**1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**

1. The Christian is a “workman”

**2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

2. The Christian is a steward.

**1 Peter 4:10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

3. Specifically the Christian’s work is…

a. To go to heaven.

**John 6:27 "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."**

b. To influence others in the direction of God.

**1 Corinthians 9:27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.**

**1 Timothy 4:16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.**

4. How?

a. By word, teaching others what the Bible says.

**Acts 8:4 Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.**

b. By our example.

**Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**

c. By helping others, Galatians 6.10; James 1.27.

5. In this ‘work” we are working with God and other Christians.

**John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. 35 "Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! 36 "And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. 37 "For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."**

6. It is the Christian’s business, purpose, to be ‘sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work” 2 Timothy 2.20-21.

a. The Christian should ask, “What am I doing with my time?”

b. What am I doing for the Lord?

**II) Why Is The Lord’s Work A Benefit To Be Appreciated?**

**A) We are “saved to serve” and the serving is a blessing as well as the salvation.**

1. In the Old Testament, those who worked in the tabernacle, the Levites, were a privileged class of men.

**Psalms 84:10 For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

2. In the things of the Lord- the opportunity to render even menial service is an honor.

3. Consider Paul’s attitude.

**1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,**

**B) The Lord’s work is a valuable blessing for numerous reasons.**

1. Its importance.

a. Man is a goal oriented creature, he instinctively seeks to make progress, to grow .

b. Man’s happiness requires a sense of profitability, usefulness.

b. Happy people are producing something.

2. The higher the goal the greater the level of satisfaction. What could be more meaningful than the Lord’s work?

3. Christ gives us all important duties. 1 Corinthians 12.12-27.

a. Most of us will never do great things (in the eyes of the world) but we can do small things in great ways.

**Matthew 25:21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'**

**Matthew 25:29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.**

4. What lasting legacy will you and I leave to those who follow us?

**Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.**

a. Will it be, “he/she was always doing good.”

b. They did what they could. Etc.

Conclusion: Without God man’s pursuits are relatively empty and unsatisfying. **Ecclesiastes 2:11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun.** The work the Christian does for God is not only important and fulfilling, it is urgent. Sad to see people without any purpose in life. Living just to die. Also sad, to see Christians living a non-Christian life. Live so as to go to heaven, .