



LABOR

created to **Create**

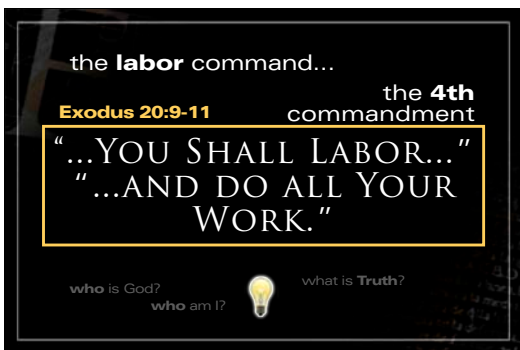
1



LABOR

divine **creativity** and
God's **design** for **labor** and the
marketplace

2



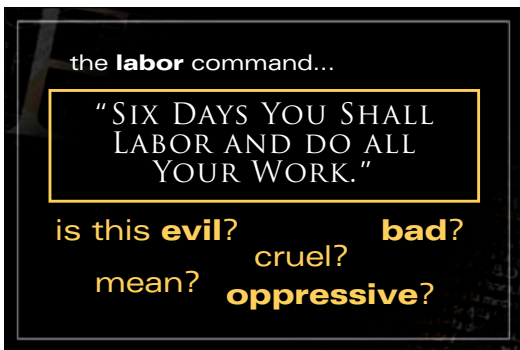
the **labor** command...

Exodus 20:9-11 the **4th** commandment

"...YOU SHALL LABOR..."
"...AND DO ALL YOUR
WORK."

who is God? who am I? what is Truth?

3

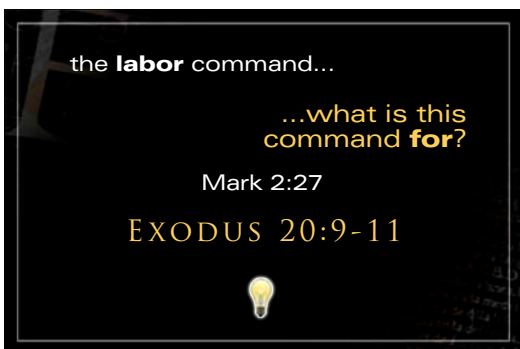


the **labor** command...

"SIX DAYS YOU SHALL
LABOR AND DO ALL
YOUR WORK."

is this **evil?** **bad?**
cruel?
mean? **oppressive?**

4



the **labor** command...

...what is this
command **for?**

Mark 2:27

EXODUS 20:9-11

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Exodus 20:9-10 (NAS)

Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you.

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Exodus 20:8 (NAS)

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy



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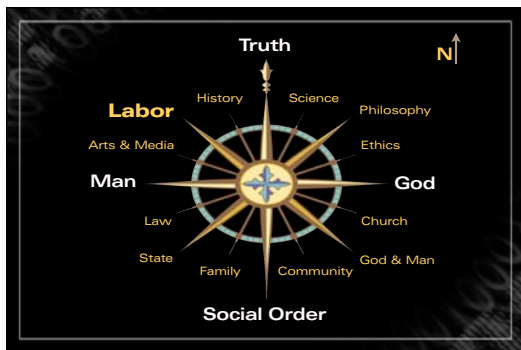
THE WHOLE COMMAND

Exodus 20:8-11

God worked...
God rested...

BACK TO THE
NATURE OF GOD

8



9

the World's View of Work

what is it?

"a four-letter word"

"the pits"

"if I didn't need the money..."

"it's what I have to do
to get to Friday"


What about "Corporations"? Profit?

10

Is God concerned with '**economics**'?
has He **spoken** in this area?

James 5:4

Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty.



11

Is God concerned with '**economics**'?
has He **spoken** in this area?

Proverbs 22:29

Do you see a man skilled in his work?
He will serve before kings...

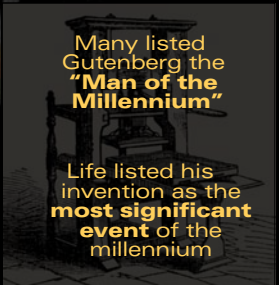


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Many listed Gutenberg the "**Man of the Millennium**"

Life listed his invention as the **most significant event** of the millennium

Johannes Gutenberg **worked...**
...and his work **changed the world**

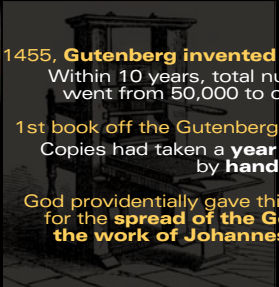


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1455, Gutenberg invented the printing press
Within 10 years, total number of books went from 50,000 to over 10 million

1st book off the Gutenberg press: the Bible
Copies had taken a **year** to be produced, by **hand**

God providentially gave this Kingdom Tool for the **spread of the Gospel through the work of Johannes Gutenberg**




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"...religious truth is imprisoned in a small number of manuscripts, which confine instead of spread this public treasure. Let us break the seal which binds these holy things; let us give wings to Truth in order that she may win every soul that comes into the world by her word, no longer written at vast expense, but multiplied everlastingly by a machine which never wearies."

15

Federer, William. *America's God and Country*. (Coppell, Texas: FAME Publishing, 1994), p. 270.



"Yes, it is a press, certainly, but a press from which shall flow in inexhaustible streams of the most abundant and most marvelous liquor that has ever flowed to relieve the thirst of men. Through it, God will spread His word; a spring of pure truth shall flow from it; like a new star it shall scatter the darkness of ignorance, and a cause a light hitherto unknown to shine among men."

Federer, William. *America's God and Country*. (Coppell, Texas: FAME Publishing, 1994), p. 270.

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17



18

THE ORIGINAL WORKER

By the seventh day God had finished the **work** he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his **work**.


Genesis 2:2

19

the **divine** attribute stamped upon **man**

Genesis 2:15

The LORD God took the **man** and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and take care of it.



20

But...
is this the **picture** we see **today**?

Do we **jump out of bed** in the morning, and rush to work with a child-like **gleam** in our eye, **whistling** while we work, groaning when the 5 o'clock whistle blows and we **have to quit**?

what happened?

21

Genesis 3:17-19

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life...

22

Genesis 3:17-19

It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

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Sphere stuff

24

how **Important** is this sphere?

- Food
- Clothes
- Housing
- Medicine
- Transportation
- Communication
- Water, Gas, Electricity
- It Funds Everything



25

how **Important** is this sphere?

- Drugs
- Abortion
- Gambling
- Pornography
- Movies & Music
- Genetic Engineering
- Enron
- It Funds Everything

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GENERAL ECONOMIC MODEL

Lev 25:23
Psa 50:7-12

God

Steward

Material Things

Gen 1:26-30
1 Chr 29:10-14

Ex 20:8-11
Ex 20:15,17
Prov 10:4;14:23
Matt 6:20
Matt 25:14-30

27

seven economic **Principles**

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economic principles

#1

ALL THINGS
BELONG TO GOD

29

Psalms 50:7-12

"Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you: I am God, your God. I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, which are ever before me. I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens..."

30

Psalm 50:7-12

...for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it."

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economic principles

#2

GOD APPOINTED MAN TO BE A CREATIVE STEWARD OF HIS GOODS WITH "OWNERSHIP" RIGHTS

32

Genesis 1:28

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

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DEFINITIONS

Steward:

a person
(or group of persons)
placed in a position of
management authority
over someone else's property

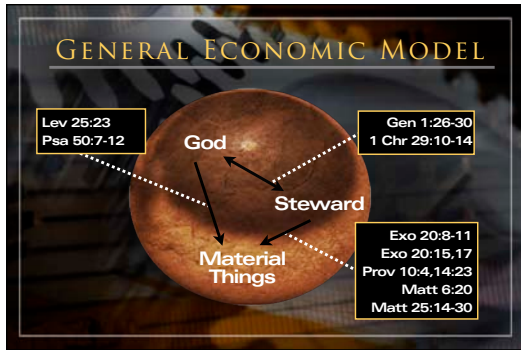
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DEFINITIONS

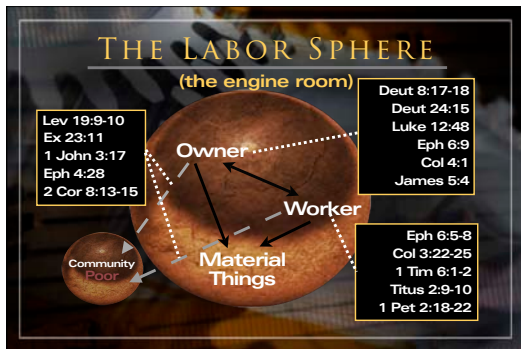
Economics:

Management of the
property that ultimately
belongs to God over which
He has placed a steward
and over which that
steward will be held
accountable.

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RADICAL STUFF
Ephesians 6:5-8

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

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RADICAL STUFF
Ephesians 6:5-8

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.

39

MORE RADICAL STUFF
Ephesians 6:9

And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that **he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.**

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economic principles

#3

THEFT OF
ANOTHER'S GOODS
IS WRONG...

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Exodus 20:15

"You shall not steal."

Economic forms of theft:

- Taking another's intangible property
- Devaluing another's goods or money
- Destroying another's goods or means of production
- Excessive/oppressive/improper taxation
- Forced "redistribution" of wealth
- Others?

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economic principles

#3

...AND COVETING
ANOTHER'S GOODS
IS WRONG.

43

Exodus 20:17

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that **belongs** to your neighbor."

Economic forms of coveteousness:

- Class envy
- Demand for "redistribution" rights
- Others?

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economic principles

#4

SKILLS AND
ABILITIES TO WORK
COME FROM GOD

45

Exodus 35:30-33

Then Moses said to the Israelites,
"See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel
son of Uri...and he has filled him
with the Spirit of God, with skill,
ability and knowledge in all kinds of
crafts—to make artistic designs for
work in gold, silver and bronze, to
cut and set stones, to work in
wood and to engage in all kinds
of artistic craftsmanship..."

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Exodus 35:35

...He has filled them
with skill to do all kinds of
work as craftsmen, designers,
embroiderers in blue, purple and
scarlet yarn and fine linen, and
weavers—all of them master
craftsmen and designers.



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economic principles

5

WORK IS
PROFITABLE, GOOD,
AND TO BE PURSUED;
LAZINESS IS NOT

48

Work is **not** a result of the **Fall**
(God works, man works)

Proverbs 14:23

All hard work brings a profit, but
mere talk leads only to poverty.

Proverbs 10:4

Lazy hands make a man poor, but
diligent hands bring wealth.

49

Work is **not** a result of the **Fall**
(God works, man works)

Proverbs 28:19

He who works his land will have
abundant food, but the one
who chases fantasies will
have his fill of poverty.

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LABOR

2 Thessalonians 3:10

For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule:
"If a man will not work,
he shall not eat."

Matthew 25:14-30

Parable of the Talents

51

economic principles

#6

LOVE GOD AND
NOT YOUR GOODS

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Matthew 6:19-20

Do not store up for yourselves
treasures on earth, where moth
and rust destroy, and where thieves
break in and steal. But store up for
yourselves treasures in heaven,
where moth and rust do not
destroy, and where thieves
do not break in and steal...

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Matthew 6:21, 24

For where your treasure
is, there your heart will be
also...No one can serve two
masters. Either he will hate
the one and love the other, or
he will be devoted to the one
and despise the other. You
cannot serve both God
and Money.

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economic principles

#7

BE COMPASSIONATE
AND GENEROUS WITH
YOUR GOODS TO
THOSE IN NEED

55

Leviticus 19:10

Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the LORD your God.

Ephesians 4:28

He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

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1 John 3:17

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

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THE LABOR SPHERE
(the engine room)

Owner

Worker

Material Things

Community
Poor

Lev 19:9-10
Ex 23:11
1 John 3:17
Eph 4:28
2 Cor 8:13-15

Deut 8:17-18
Deut 24:15
Luke 12:48
Eph 6:9
Col 4:1
James 5:4

Eph 6:5-8
Col 3:22-25
1 Tim 6:1-2
Titus 2:9-10
1 Pet 2:18-22

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COMPASSION

Proverbs 28:27

He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.

Proverbs 29:7

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

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SUMMARY

God, having stamped his creative image upon man, graciously grants His stewards the privilege to be creative and manage some of His property, which they may lose (often because of sin) or multiply (often because of hard labor) and out of which they are responsible to be generous to the poor.

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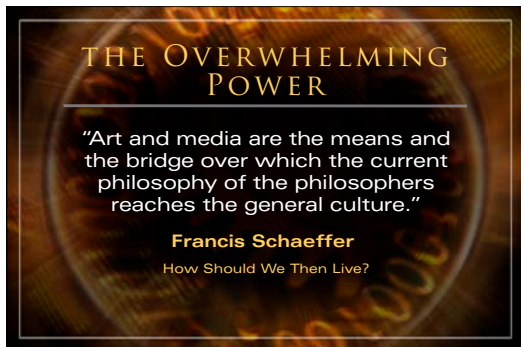


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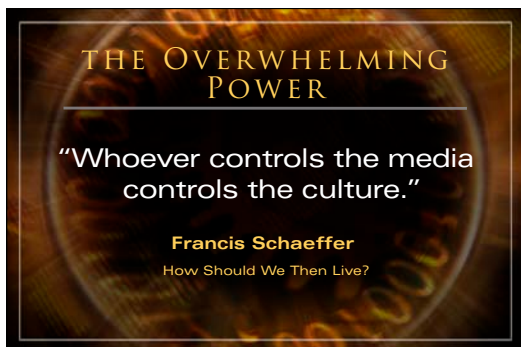
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<http://www.yaledailynews.com/article.asp?AID=26903> or
<http://www.mcgilldaily.com/view.php?aid=3132>



67

Schaeffer, Francis. *How Should We Then Live?*



68

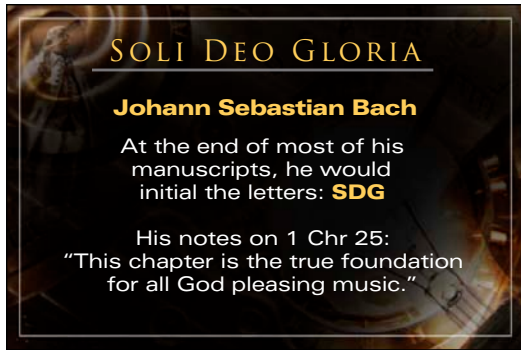
Schaeffer, Francis. *How Should We Then Live?*



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SOLI DEO GLORIA

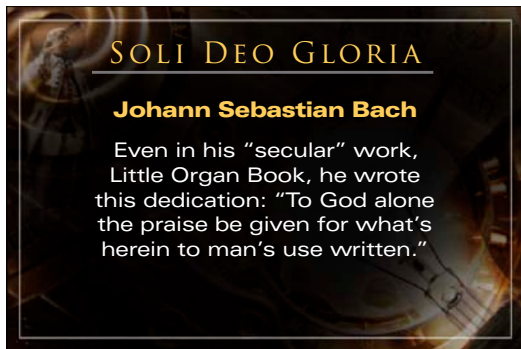
Johann Sebastian Bach

At the end of most of his manuscripts, he would initial the letters: **SDG**

His notes on 1 Chr 25:
"This chapter is the true foundation for all God pleasing music."

71

Kavanaugh, Patrick. *Spiritual Lives of the Great Composers*. (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992), p.20.



SOLI DEO GLORIA

Johann Sebastian Bach

Even in his "secular" work, Little Organ Book, he wrote this dedication: "To God alone the praise be given for what's herein to man's use written."

72

Terry, Charles Sanford. *The Music of Bach, an Introduction*. (NY, NY: Dover Publishing), p. 17.



LABOR
created to **Create**

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