

September 4, 2018



EVERY DAY IS LABOR DAY

I hope that you had an excellent Labor Day. Most of us do not stop to consider what holidays like these actually mean. We just enjoy the time off. The truth is that there is a message in this day that is often missed. This message will empower us through all of the work that we do and make it much more meaningful. Let's put aside the picnics, barbecues and vacations and go after this. Are you with me? You are either on your way back to work now or are already there. This is a good thing. Labor Day honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. It is true that one of the contributions to the greatness of this nation is our work ethic. The diligence of our citizens is commendable. Yet the message of this day speaks to something greater. Let's see:

Work ethic is commended in the word of God. [2 Thessalonians 3:10-13 ESV \(10\)](#) For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. (11) For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. (12) Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. (13) As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good. God's word admonishes us to work and support ourselves, not being lazy or inactive depending on the charity of others in order to survive. [Colossians 3:17 MKJV](#) And everything, whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. We are to do everything, especially our work, in His name. This means ultimately we are doing it for him and not our employer. It does not matter if that employer is unfair, corrupt or cruel. Our work is done so that the LORD might be pleased and receive glory. This also entails thanking Him for providing this opportunity to work and not complaining. That is even if we are not where we want to be professionally or financially. Connecting to Him in this way will get us to that place we desire to be. It will be great and even glorious.

Our work is meant to invite the presence of the LORD. [Colossians 1:29 MKJV](#) For which I also labor, striving according to the working of Him who works in me in power. His power would like to work in us as we work. It depends on us calling upon the Holy Spirit to be with us as we start our workday. Then we are to keep the communication lines open with Him and what He wants to do. [John 4:34 ESV](#) Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. [John 5:17 ESV](#) But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." As we do this, we see that He has work that He wants done that is not yet finished. Our work and His work are not exclusive of each other. They are meant to coincide. [Matthew 11:28-30 ESV](#) 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." There is work to be done without question. True relief comes when there is a coming together of God and man. Have you experienced this? It is rightfully called "rest," "easy" and "light." This kind of life is full of activities, not dull by any stretch of the imagination. But the stress and pressures of the world are alleviated. How is this possible? God is present with us taking on the more difficult tasks that are often impossible for us. The result is tremendous. Not only do we succeed and find favor, God also uses us to impact eternity and expand His Kingdom. Every day is Labor Day! Amen to that!

Yes, it is great to have some time off but who is ready to get started back at work? It is an opportunity to not only provide your needs but also to have an abundance. Invite the LORD to your workplace with you. Be sensitive to His leading and presence. He will enable and direct you so that you are able to do an excellent job, performing better than others and solving problems that they cannot. He will show you as well how you can make a difference in the lives of those that your work brings you in contact with. He will make you an agent of change to what is not His will. Take His Kingdom to this place and these people. Find rest as you labor for Him today. Every day is Labor Day.

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