

**O u t l i n e**  
**Lesson 11 - Labor: Created to Create**

I. Introduction – The "Labor" Fourth Command Exodus 20:9-11

Mark 2:27 “Jesus said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath””

II. God's design for the sphere of Labor

Gen2:15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.

A. Culture's view of work – generally negative and considered a curse

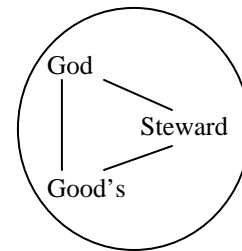
B. Reflection of God's nature – God worked and saw that it was good – God stamped us with his divine image and has given us the privilege of being his creative stewards

C. Importance of this sphere, though we generally don't address it

1. It funds everything – all material goods are produced in this sphere
2. Yet it also produces pornography, illegal drugs, abortion, etc.

III. General Economic Model and Seven Economic Principles

A. All things belong to God – Psalm 50:7-12



1. Our materialistic drive is a reflection of Satan's lie that more "stuff" will satisfy us

B. God appointed man to be a creative steward of his goods with ownership rights

1. Definition of steward and economics: management authority of God's goods

Steward – A person ( or group of persons) placed in a position of management authority over someone else’s property.

Economics – management of the property that ultimately belongs to God over which He has place a steward and over which that steward will be held accountable.

2. Proper, Biblical attitude of employees and employers

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him. Eph 6:5-9

C. Theft and coveting of another's goods is wrong - Exodus 20:17

D. Skills and abilities to work come from God – Exodus 35:30-35

E. Work is profitable, good, and to be pursued; laziness is not – Proverbs 24:23, 10:4

F. Love God and not your goods – Matt 6:19-24

G. Be compassionate and generous with your good to those in need Lev 19:10, Eph 4:28

IV. Responsibility to the poor

A. Scriptural mandate to show compassion to the poor 1John 3:17, Prov 28:27, Prov 29:7

B. The poor need work and the sphere of labor has the primary responsibility to provide those work opportunities

V. Arts and Media - Is beauty relative?

The Church left the Arts?

A. God's standard – Psalm 101:3 – "I will set before my eyes no vile thing"

B. Overwhelming power and presence of media – "Whoever controls the media, controls the culture"



C. Soli Deo Gloria – For God's glory alone – We need to have this same perspective, that God would be glorified in all we do

**K e y T e r m s**  
**Lesson 11 – Labor: Created to Create**

**Creative Steward:** God has stamped His divine image of creativity upon us, giving us the privilege to be creative agents within this physical realm.

**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.

**General Economic Model:** God is the owner of everything, and we are given stewardship rights and responsibilities over His material goods.

**Johannes Gutenberg** (c. 1397-1468): Named "Man of the Millennium" as a result of his 1455 invention of the printing press. The first book of the press was the Bible and God used Gutenberg's work to providential spread the gospel to the entire earth.

**Seven Economic Principles:** 1 - All things belong to God. 2 - God appointed man to be a creative steward of His goods with ownership rights. 3 – Theft and coveting of another's goods is wrong. 4 – Skills and abilities to work come from God. 5 – Work is profitable, good, and to be pursued; laziness is not. 6 – Love God and not your goods. 7 – Be compassionate and generous with your goods to those in need.

**Steward:** A person (or a group of persons) placed in a position of management authority over someone else's property.

**The Labor Command:** Usually referred to as "the Sabbath Command"; Exodus 20:9, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work ..."