



The Devil's Work
God's Work
Your Work

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Sermon Notes from September 14, 2008

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 (Amplified Bible)

16Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, Who loved us and gave us everlasting consolation and encouragement and well-founded hope through [His] grace (unmerited favor), 17Comfort and encourage your hearts and strengthen them [make them steadfast and keep them unswerving] in every good work and word.

Introduction

- The devil is on the job doing his work; God is on the job doing His work. What job are you on toward your work?
- What you need to know when you discover your work: walk, words, wisdom.
- The difference between a job and work.

The Difference Between a Job and Work

Work:

- **activity in which one exerts strength or faculties to do or perform something**
- **sustained physical or mental effort to overcome obstacles and achieve an objective or result**
- the labor, task, or duty that is one's accustomed means of livelihood
- a specific task, duty, function, or assignment often being a **part** or phase of some larger activity
- energy expended by natural phenomena
 - the result of such energy (ex., sand dunes are the *work* of sea and wind)
- the transference of energy that is produced by the motion of the point of application of a force and is measured by multiplying the force and the displacement of its point of application in the line of action
- something that results from a particular manner or method of working, operating, or devising (ex., careful police *work* or clever camera *work*)



Job:

- **a piece of work esp : a small miscellaneous piece of work undertaken on order at a stated rate**
- the object or material on which work is being done
- something produced by or as if by work (ex., do a better *job* next time)
- an example of a usually specified type (ex., a 14,000-square-foot *job*)
- something done for private advantage (ex., suspected the whole incident was a put-up *job*)
- a criminal enterprise (ex., robbery)
- a damaging or destructive bit of work (ex., did a *job* on him)
- **something that has to be done ; a task**
- an undertaking requiring unusual exertion (ex., it was a real *job* to talk over that noise)
- a specific duty, role, or function
- a regular remunerative position
- *chiefly British*: state of affairs — usually used with *bad* or *good* (ex., it was a good *job* you didn't hit the old man)

Introduction

- Who is the devil?
- Who is God?
- Who are you?

Who is the devil?

“God placed the great cherub, Lucifer, to carry out His government on the earth, but Lucifer refused to carry out God’s will, God’s commands, God’s government. He wanted to substitute his own. So he disqualified himself.

Adam had the chance to supplant him. In the contest to see if Adam would conquer, if he would obey God, he failed. He obeyed the devil instead, and man became the property of the devil, and the whole human race has been sold down the river to the devil ever since.

Jesus Christ came 4,000 years later and He entered the great contest—the contest of the temptation on the Mount. He refused to obey the devil. He quoted scripture correctly. He obeyed God.

Finally, He turned to the devil, and He gave Satan a command. He said, ‘Get away from me,’ and the devil obeyed!



From that time on, the successor of Satan has been qualified to take over the rule of the earth. But Jesus went to heaven for 1900 years. He is soon coming again, and when He does, the devil will be displaced. Christ will rule the earth, God's Laws will be restored. Order and peace will come at last!

So God did not create a devil. He created a cherub, Lucifer—perfect in his ways, but with the power of free choice—and Lucifer transformed himself into a devil by rebellion against the Government of God!"

Who is the Devil?

Names & descriptions of the devil:

- Devil: Matthew 4:1
- Belial 2 Corinthians 6:15 lit: "worthless"
- Enemy: Matthew 13:39
- Serpent: Revelation 12:9; 20:2; 2 Corinthians 11:3
- Satan: Mark 1:13
- Tempter: 1 Thessalonians 3:5; Matthew 4:3
- Ruler of demons: Matthew 12:24
- Adversary: 1 Peter 5:8
- Strong man: Matthew 12:29
- Angel of bottomless pit: Revelation 9:11
- Murderer: John 8:44
- Great red dragon: Revelation 12:3
- Liar & father of lies: John 8:44
- Beelzebub: Matthew 12:24
- Ruler of world: John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11
- Accuser of the brethren: Revelation 12:10
- god of this world: 2 Corinthians 4:4
- The wicked one: Matthew 13:19
- Hebrew: "Abbadon" literally - destruction
- Greek: "Apollyon" literally - destroyer

Ephesians 6:11-12 (Amplified Bible)

11Put on God's whole armor [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil.

12For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world



rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

Luke 10:19 (The Message)

18-20 Jesus said, "I know. I saw Satan fall, a bolt of lightning out of the sky. See what I've given you? Safe passage as you walk on snakes and scorpions, and protection from every assault of the Enemy. No one can put a hand on you. All the same, the great triumph is not in your authority over evil, but in God's authority over you and presence with you. Not what you do for God but what God does for you—that's the agenda for rejoicing."

Luke 10:18-20 (Amplified Bible)

18 And He said to them, I saw Satan falling like a lightning [flash] from heaven. 19 Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are enrolled in heaven.

Who is God?

The Bible teaches us that in all existence, from all eternity, there has been and always will be only one God. God was never created, is completely loving, completely just, completely holy, completely merciful, and that He desires the best for us. God is holy and He can have nothing to do with sin as the Bible says, "His eyes are too pure to look upon evil," (Habakkuk 1:13). This does not mean that God cannot see what someone does that is wrong. It is a way of describing how holy God is. God cannot sin. He is perfect.

In Christianity, God is a Trinity. This means that God is three persons, not three gods.

Technically, the doctrine of the Trinity states that in the one God is the person of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each is not the same person as the other; yet there are not three gods but one. This is similar in analogy to the nature of time. Time is past, present, and future. The past is not the same as the present, which is not the same as the future. But, there are not three times. There is only one thing called time.

The reason the word "person" is used in describing the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is because each exhibits attributes of personhood -- not in a body of flesh and bones, but in personality. In other words, each has a will, loves, speaks, is aware of others, communicates with others, etc. These are attributes of personhood and we see the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit each demonstrate these qualities.



Who Are You?

- **I Am Accepted**

John 1:12

I am God's child.

John 15:15

As a disciple, I am a friend of Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1

I have been justified.

1 Corinthians 6:17

I am united with the Lord, and I am one with Him in spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

I have been bought with a price and I belong to God.

1 Corinthians 12:27

I am a member of Christ's body.

Ephesians 1:3-8

I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child.

Colossians 1:13-14

I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.

Colossians 2:9-10

I am complete in Christ.

Hebrews 4:14-16

I have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ.

- **I Am Secure**

Romans 8:1-2

I am free from condemnation.

Romans 8:28

I am assured that God works for my good in all circumstances.



Romans 8:31-39

I am free from any condemnation brought against me and I cannot be separated from the love of God.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.

Colossians 3:1-4

I am hidden with Christ in God.

Philippians 1:6

I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me.

Philippians 3:20

I am a citizen of heaven.

2 Timothy 1:7

I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.

1 John 5:18

I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.

- **I Am Significant**

John 15:5

I am a branch of Jesus Christ, the true vine, and a channel of His life.

John 15:16

I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.

1 Corinthians 3:16

I am God's temple.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

I am a minister of reconciliation for God.

Ephesians 2:6

I am seated with Jesus Christ in the heavenly realm.



Ephesians 2:10

I am God's workmanship.

Ephesians 3:12

I may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.