

Is God Providing?

(A Look at Work)

Is God Providing?

Phil 4:19

“But my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

A Look at Work

Ecclesiastes 5:18

“Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one's labor in which he toils under the sun during the few years of his life which God has given him; for this is his reward.”

A Look at Work

- Work is good, *but not for many reasons we may think.*
- To exercise the illusion of control
- To establish self-worth
- To generate money

A Look at Work

- **Stewardship**
- **Teacher of faith**
- **Submission to authority**
- **People.**

Is God Providing?

Lie #1:

Belief that you go to work to earn a living.

Is God Providing?

- 19 " Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.
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- 20 "But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;
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- 21 for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
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- 22 " The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.
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- 23 "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!
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- 24 " No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
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- 25 The Cure for Anxiety " For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
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- 26 " Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?
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- 27 "And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?
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- 28 "And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,
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- 29 yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.
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- 30 "But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!
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- 31 "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'

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Lie #2:

It's a lie to believe that:

There is a cause/effect relationship between how hard or long you work, how efficient you are and how much you make.

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Psalm 127:2:

“It is vain for you to rise up early, To retire late,
To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives
to His beloved even in his sleep.”

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Colossians 3:23

“Whatever you do, do it heartily as unto the Lord and not unto men..”

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John 6:27

"Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal."

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Reasons to work

- God commands it.
- Priesthood. Representatives of Jesus Christ
- An environment, a platform to represent Jesus Christ. “Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness...” (Matt 6:33).

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Luke 16:13

" No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Is God Providing?

1 Peter 3:15

“...But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence...”

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Ramifications of believing the lies

- Attitude toward others will: to use and manipulate them rather than minister to them.
- Separate those that I work for and with and those that I minister to. Those people will become compartmentalized in my thinking.
- Monday to Friday will become secularized, rather than spiritual. It is not ministry then but secular work.