



# CASE OF THE MONDAYS

TAKE YOUR JOB AND LOVE IT!

“Is not all human life a struggle?

Our lives are like that of a hired hand,  
like a worker who longs for the shade,  
like a servant waiting to be paid.

I, too, have been assigned months of futility,  
long and weary nights of misery.

– Job 7:1-3, *New Living Translation*

From the beginning, the human creature is called, given a vocation, and expected to share in God's work.

– Walter Brueggemann, *Genesis*

People say, “What am I here for? Why am I alive?” Genesis 2 (and, for that matter, Genesis 1 as well) offer an answer. We are here so that we can join the cause! We belong to a cause that is bigger than ourselves.

– W. Sibley Towner, *Genesis*

Work is a gift of God, not a punishment for sin. Even before the Fall humanity has duties to perform.

– Bruce K. Waltke, *Genesis, A Commentary*

Our work is affirmed as worthy and meaningful when it is done in stewardly service of the Creator.

– Brian Walsh, *Subversive Christianity*

“The text is saying that exercising royal dominion over the earth as God's representative is the basic purpose for which God created man...”

– I. Hart, *Genesis 1:1-2:3 As a Prologue to the Books of Genesis*

...man is appointed king over creation, responsible to God the ultimate king, and as such expected to manage and develop and care for creation, this task to include actual physical work.

– I. Hart, *Genesis 1:1-2:3 As a Prologue to the Books of Genesis*

Even the earth creature, the first human being who ever was, must have taken it as good news that there was more to be done than just sitting around and picking fruit. He-she is the gardener of Eden. Now the task of caring for the good earth has come down to us.

– W. Sibley Towner, *Genesis*

The human person is ordained over the remainder of creation but for its profit, well-being, and enhancement, the role of the human person is to see to it that the creation becomes fully the creation willed by God.

– Walter Brueggemann, *Genesis*

Work itself is a blessing of the working God, not a curse, but now it is cursed by the estrangement of humanity from the life-giving soil. No longer will humanity always gain reward for harsh labor.

– Bruce K. Waltke, *Genesis*

... in Genesis 1 the “dominion” exercised by the creatures made in God's image is to be marked by a high sense of responsibility toward the things that God loves.

– W. Sibley Towner, *Genesis*

*But Jesus replied, “My Father is always working, and so am I.”*

– John 5:17, *New Living Translation*