**Work-Related**

**You have blessed the work of his hands**

**and his possessions have increased in the land.**

***(Job 1:10)***

**I have seen the business that God has given**

**to everyone to be busy with.**

***(Ecclesiastes 3:10)***

**Whatsoever your hand is able to do,**

**do it with your might.**

***(Ecclesiastes 9:10)***

**Therefore, brothers and sisters,**

**be all the more eager to confirm your call and election,**

**for if you do this, you will never stumble.**

***(2 Peter 1:10)***

**Work is accomplished by those employees who have not reached their level of incompetence/ *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**How can a healthy adult be so tired at the end of a day when a bird weighing under an ounce can fly nonstop across the Gulf of Mexico? *(Edwin Pope, in Miami Herald)***

**I’m working very hard, so that I can afford the medical bills, when I collapse from over-work. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**The perils of all work, no play: Alibaba founder Jack Ma "is a big fan of extreme overwork," said Bryce Covert. In a recent blog post, China's richest man praised the so-called 996 schedule -- working from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., six days a week. The 12-hour workday is, he explained, a "blessing." Chinese internet commenters were furiously disagreed, noting that such a schedule makes raising children impossible, and even the state-run media blasted 996 as "unfair and impractical." Ma isn't the only manager selling "toil glamour." Tesla founder Elon Musk has argued that "nobody ever changed the world on 40 hours a week." Uber's internal mantra was once, "Work smarter, harder, and longer." And WeWork decorates it's co-working spaces with phrases like "Don't stop when you're tired, stop when you're done." They're all wrong. Studies show that neither employers nor employees benefit when workers push themselves to the brink of exhaustion. Researchers have found that after 48 hours a week, a worker's output sharply drops. And people who labor for more than 55 hours a week actually "perform worse than those who go home at a normal hour and rest." Excessive work effort has also been linked to worse career outcomes and a litany of health problems. Perhaps it's time for Ma, Musk, and Co. to embrace a new mantra: Work smarter, work less. *(The Week magazine, May 3, 2019)***

**Most people get more done if they take breaks about every 45 minutes. So say efficiency experts. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**According to a 2005 survey by CareerBuilders.com, 43% of Americans called in sick when there was nothing wrong with them, up from 35% the year before. (*Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 52)***

**In 1659 the General Court of Massachusetts ordered that anybody caught feasting or laying off from work, or in any other way goofing off on any day such as Christmas, would be fined five shillings for every such offense. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 323)***

**The man who does his work, any work, conscientiously, must always be in one sense a great man. *(Dinah Maria Mulock Craik, English novelist)***

**A lot of what passes for depression these days is nothing more than a body saying that it needs work. *(Geoffrey Norman, in Esquire)***

**Work is a dull thing; you cannot get away from that. The only agreeable existence is one of idleness, and that is not, unfortunately, always compatible with continuing to exist at all. *(Rose Macaulay, English poet and essayist)***

**How much easier our work would be if we put forth as much effort trying to improve the quality of it as most of us do trying to find excuses for not properly attending to it. *(George W. Ballenger)***

**I like work: It fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. *(Jerome K. Jerome, author)***

**Professionals are people who can do their job when they don't feel like it. Amateurs are people who can’t do their job when they do feel like it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Most flat tires occur Monday mornings and Friday afternoons, statistics show. All I know about this, though, is Monday mornings are usually when most people don't want to go in to work and Friday afternoons are when most people don't want to go back*. (L. M. Boyd*)**

**Ask God’s blessing on your work, but don’t ask him to do it for you. *(Dame Flora Robson)***

**Work for something because it is good, not just because it stands a chance of success. *(Vaclav Havel, who was first president of the new Czech Republic in 1993)***

**If work was a good thing, the rich would have it all and not let you do it. *(Elmore Leonard)***

**A new study suggests that higher pay improves productivity only for a short time. University of Chicago researchers promised to pay a group of data-entry workers $8 more an hour than their expected $12-an-hour rate. The overpaid group outperformed the control group by 27 percent – for about 90 minutes. *(Forbes, as it appeared in The Week magazine, April 28, 2006)***

**Work isn’t to make money; you work to justify life. *(Marc Chagall)***

**The person who knows how will always have a job. But the person who knows why will be his boss. *(Carl C. Wood)***

**U.S. companies have laid off more than 30 million full-time employees since the early 1980s. *(Marketwatch.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, June 2, 2006)***

**It proves, on close examination, that work is less boring than amusing oneself. *(Charles Baudelaire)***

**Work is something you can count on, a trusted, lifelong friend who never deserts you. *(Margaret Bourke-White, photojournalist)***

**The best time to look for work is after you get the job*. (Bits & Pieces)***

**CBS plans to offer free, live Internet video of this month’s NCAA basketball tournament for the first time. Games during work hours will cost employers an estimated $3.8 billion in lost productivity, according to workplace consultant Challenger, Gray & Christmas. *(Baltimore Sun, as it appeared in The Week magazine, March 24, 2006)***

**Unless a job means more than money it will seldom return more than money. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Which means more to you -- your work days or your days off? Some experts contend you're in the wrong line of labor if your leisure is more important to you than your job. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**People who are more interested in the work than in the money, usually make more money. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**The Bureau of Labor Statistics has identified the 30 occupations most likely to post the greatest growth in the next decade. Seventeen of the 30 are in health care. *(DailyFinance.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, May 21, 2010)***

**On Christmas Eve 1939, 25-year-old Geoffrey E. MacPherson was working in a cramped, rented office in the center of Nottingham, England. It was almost 10 p.m., but he had more important things to occupy his mind than the lateness of the hour. A year earlier, he had started his own one-man business, selling yarn to the city's textile industry, yet the big orders on which he had staked his future, had so far eluded him. To make matters worse, World War II had started in September, so trade threatened to become even more difficult in the months ahead. Suddenly, the telephone rang. A major United Kingdom textile manufacturer was trying to place an urgent order for yarn -- in bulk. Telephone calls to 14 well-known suppliers had already gone unanswered, the staff having long departed for their Christmas holidays. At their 15th attempt, their call had been answered by a virtually unknown yarn supplier in Nottingham. Moreover, the young man on the other end of the line was showing himself to be only too willing to meet their critical deadline. The yarn was delivered on time, and from that day the small Nottingham agency became their main supplier. It proved to be the major turning point in the young man's fortunes. By the end of the 1940s, he had diversified into textile machinery, and by the late 1980s, Geoffrey E. MacPherson Ltd. was among the top 100 private exporting companies in the U.K., with sales of 50 million pounds and a staff of 170. Mr. MacPherson remains chairman of the company he found 55 years ago, and can still be found at his desk most weekends. Few salespeople will argue with him when he asks them to travel to a distant sales area on a Sunday, or to work at an exhibition stand into the middle evening. They all know the story of the big order that arrived late on Christmas Eve! *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The best preparation for work is not thinking about work, talking about work, or studying for work: it is work. *(William Weld)***

**The best way to get relief from a monotonous task is to think up ways of improving it. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Sam was a kind of seedy-looking guy in the maintenance department where I worked. But he was pretty sharp. One day Sam was going to work on some heavy machinery. He had a tool carrier slung over one shoulder and was dragging a chain behind him. “Why are you dragging that chain, Sam?” someone asked. Sam replied, “Did you ever see anyone push one?” When Sam was about to retire, he was asked what he was going to do. “When I get up in the morning, I won’t have anything to do,” Sam said. “And when I go to bed at night, I’ll have it all done.” (*Dale Bahr, in Reminisce magazine)***

**The word robot comes from the Czechoslovakian word robotovat, which means “to work very hard.” It was created by Karel Capek. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 129)***

**Salespeople spend only 10 percent of their time actually selling, according to a study of Proudfoot Consulting. Paperwork, travel, and problem solving take up the rest of their time. *(Associated Press, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 3, 2004)***

**Why we shouldn’t work so hard: Germans tend to take a rest, said Nicola Holzapfel in Munich’s Suddeutsche Zeitung. The newest research on labor shows definitively that productivity starts to fall off after six hours of work – and accidents increase dramatically. In any given work, any more than 35 to 38 hours of work is wasted at best, damaging at worst. Companies that encourage their employees to linger after hours “are only hurting themselves. They could actually get more out of their people “by sending them home early.” These findings, though, have yet to have an impact. Nearly one-third of Germans work an “overlong week” of more than 42 hours, And more than three-quarters of us do at least part of our work after 5 p.m., or on weekend shifts. The trend toward flextime was supposed to be worker-friendly, but it turns out that working those off-hours throws off our bodies and kills our social lives. The message is clear: “Work less.” And if you must long in extra hours because the boss is watching, be sure to “take lots of breaks.” *(The Week magazine, May 25, 2007)***

**MARGINAL NOTE: The only place where success comes before work is in a dictionary. *(Country Extra magazine)***

**The work will teach you how to do it. *(Estonian proverb)***

**Unemployment is capitalism’s way of getting you to plant a garden. (*Orson Scott Card, author)***

**Do you take an unscheduled day off the job every now and then? If so, you’re one of those most likely to quit said job within 12 months, according to the labor statistics. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all. *(Peter Drucker, management expert)***

**I put my heart and my soul into my work and have lost my mind in the process. *(Vincent van Gogh, painter)***

**There is a kind of victory in good work, no matter how humble. *(Rep. Jack Kemp)***

**The work will wait while you show the child the rainbow, but the rainbow won’t wait while you do the work. *(Patricia Clafford, in Hinton, Oklahoma, Record)***

**You can hire people to work for you, but you must win their hearts to have them work with you*. (Bits & Pieces)***

**When a woman takes leave from her job to care for her newborn baby, her working hours almost double, the experts say. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**The Japanese are the world’s biggest workaholics, using only 33% of the vacation days allotted to them. Americans ranked fifth, taking just 57% of their leave. The French take vacations seriously, using 89% of their time off. *(Reuters/lpsos, as it appeared in The Week magazine, August 20, 2010)***

**For 43 percent of small-business owners and managers, the workweek is frequently longer than 40 hours, and for 13 percent of them it’s often twice that long. Almost a third of small-business people work right through holidays, and 15 percent through dinner. *(Inc. as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 22, 2011)***

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