**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)***

**For it is God who is at work in you,**

**enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.**

***(Philippians 2:13)***

**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)***

**If it weren’t for problems, the work day would be over by 10 a.m. *(Woody Allen)***

**There's no limit to the amount of work we can do, provided, of course, that it isn’t the work we're supposed to be doing at the moment. *(Robert Benchley)***

**To work is to feel alive. *(Tony Bennett)***

**Hard work never killed anybody, but why take a chance? *(Edgar Bergen)***

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

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

**To find joy in work is to discover the fountain of youth. *(Pearl Buck)***

**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)***

**Husband says after answering the phone: “She can’t come to the phone right now. She’s busy thinking up things for me to do.” *(Reminisce magazine)***

**Oh, you hate your job? Why didn’t you say so? There’s a support group for that. It’s called “Everybody,” and they meet at the bar. *(Drew Carey)***

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**Hard work is a misleading term. Physical effort and long hours do not constitute hard work. Hard work is when someone pays you to do something you’d rather not be doing. Anytime you’d rather be doing something other than the thing you’re doing, you’re doing hard work. *(George Carlin, in When Will Jesus Bring the Pork Chops?, p. 50)***

**Oh, you hate your job? Why didn’t you say so? There’s a support group for that. It’s called EVERYBODY, and they meet at the bar. *(George Carlin, in ArtsHub U.K.)***

[**Some people see things that are and ask, Why? Some people dream of things that never were and ask, Why not? Some people have to go to work and don’t have time for all that. *(George Carlin)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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**We either make ourselves miserable or we make ourselves strong. The amount of work is the same. *(Carlos Castaneda)***

**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)***

**A computer does save time at work. I can play solitaire without having to spend all that time shuffling real cards. *(The American Legion magazine)***

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

**When large numbers of men are unable to find work, unemployment results. *(Calvin Coolidge)***

**Frank says to Ernest: “My doctor told me to cut my work load in half. I don’t know whether to stop talking about it or thinking about it.” *(Bob Thaves, in Frank & Ernest comic strip)***

**Work is the least disappointing relationship you can have. *(Bette Davis)***

**The person who said “Jack of all trades, master of none” was obviously not a multi-tasker. *(Ellen DeGeneres)***

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

**It is easy to work when the soul is at play. *(Emily Dickinson)***

**Anyone can do any amount of work, provided it isn’t the work he’s supposed to be doing at that moment. *(Robert Benchley, humorist)***

**Dennis says to his friend: “Mr. Wilson says he doesn’t work on days that end in ‘Y’.” *(Hank Ketcham, in Dennis The Menace comic strip)***

**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)***

**Boss says to employee: “You can earn $504 a week if you work the full 168 hours.” *(Jim Unger, in Herman comic strip)***

**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)***

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**Opportunity is missed by most people because it comes dressed in overalls and looks like work. *(Thomas Edison)***

**I never did anything worth doing by accident; nor did any of my inventions come by accident; they came by work. *(Thomas Alva Edison)***

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**The Three Rules Of Work:**

1. Out of clutter, find simplicity.

**2. From discord, find harmony.**

**3. In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity. *(Albert Einstein)***

**How do I work? I grope. *(Albert Einstein)***

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**It seems we are living at a time when employers are looking for employees between the ages of 25 and 30 with 40 years’ experience. *(George Anderson, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**Hard work spotlights the character of people: Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don’t turn up at all. *(Sam Ewing, radio announcer)***

**Willy says to his friend: “Ethel's got a point. If I'd spend half the time working that I do making up excuses to get out of work, I'd already be retired.” *(Joe Martin, in Willy ‘N' Ethel comic strip)***

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

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**One of the saddest things is that the only thing a man can do for eight hours is work. He can’t eat for eight hours, nor drink for eight hours, nor make love for eight hours. *(William Faulkner)***

**It's a shame that the only thing a man can do for eight hours a day is work. He can't eat for eight hours; he can't drink for eight hours; he can't make love for eight hours. The only thing a man can do for eight hours is work. *(William Faulkner)***

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**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)***

**Employment Counselor: “I tried phoning your guardians about your disruptive behavior in class today, Axel, but there's no answer at home, and your file shows nothing under ‘Work’!” Axel: “What does it show under ‘Happy Hour’?” *(J. C. Duffy, in The Fusco Brothers comic strip)***

**Work is for self-expression, the development of God-given faculties and powers, and for helping those about us. *(Myrtle Fillmore's Healing Letters, chapter on "Our Work")***

**While fishing on the west coast of Florida, I returned to camp with the usual results: not nearly enough fish to justify the number of shrimp I had used as bait. Later, while discussing the meager results of my day’s efforts with the camp operator, I remarked how amazing it is that fish can take the bait off the hook without a person even knowing it. The operator pulled his pipe from his mouth. “T’aint so amazin’, son,” he said. “They do it for a livin’.” *(Ralph D. Woods, in Reader’s Digest)***

**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*)**

**If you have a job without any aggravations, you don't have a job. *(Malcolm Forbes, in The Sayings of Chairman Malcolm)***

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**The world is full of willing people, some willing to work, the rest willing to let them. *(Robert Frost)***

**By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may get to be a boss and work twelve hours a day. *(Robert Frost)***

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**A supervisor who was tired all the time finally went to see the doctor. The doctor gave him a thorough examination and then announced, “I can’t seem to find a thing wrong with you physically. Tell you what, why don’t you give up part of your work for a while?” The patient thought this over for a moment, then asked, “Which part, Doc, thinking about it or talking about it?” *(Bits & Pieces)***

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

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**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)***

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**Last summer I asked a recent high-school graduate if he was looking for work. He thought for a while and then answered, “Not necessarily. But I would like to have a job.” *(Mrs. C. Majewski, in Catholic Digest)***

**Hard work never kills anybody who supervises it. *(Harry C. Bauer)***

**Work is the greatest thing in the world, so we should always save some of it for tomorrow. *(Don Herold, humorist)***

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**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)***

**The highest reward for man’s toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it. *(Ruskin)***

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**Holiday Inn founder Kemmons Wilson, recently passed away at age 90. He made many a bundle in his lifetime and not just in sheets and pillowcases! Some years ago, I met his son, who shared this story about his father. The elder Wilson didn't graduate high school but was later invited by his school to give the commencement address. “I really don't know why I'm here,” he said. “I never got a diploma, and I've only worked half-days my entire life. I guess my advice to you is to do the same. Work half-days every day. And it doesn't matter which half . . . the first 12 hours or the second 12 hours.” *(Harvey Mackay, in Outswimming The Sharks)***

[**"How come you're late?" the boss asks his assistant as she walks in the door. "It was awful," she says. "I was walking down the street and saw a terrible accident. A man was lying in the middle of the street badly injured. There was blood everywhere. I'm just glad I took that first aid course." "What did you do?" "I sat down and put my head between my knees to keep from fainting." *(JOBHUNTEXPRESS.COM)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If you want work well done, select a busy man – the other kind has not time. *(Elbert Hubbard, American author and publisher)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It’s a strange thing how unimportant your job is when you’re asking for a raise, but how important it can be when you want to take the day off. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

 [**Work isn’t to make money; you work to justify life. *(Marc Chagall)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The fact that our task is exactly as large as our life makes it appear infinite. *(Franz Kafka)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When your work speaks for itself, don’t interrupt. *(Henry J. Kaiser)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The person who knows how will always have a job. But the person who knows why will be his boss. *(Carl C. Wood)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Through howling wind, drenching rain or snow sports freaks to the stadium will go, but they'll be in a state of distress if they must leave for work in that mess*. (Grace Rhinebeck)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It proves, on close examination, that work is less boring than amusing oneself. *(Charles Baudelaire)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work is something you can count on, a trusted, lifelong friend who never deserts you. *(Margaret Bourke-White, photojournalist)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**My father taught me to work, but not to love it. I never did like to work, and I don’t deny it. I’d rather read, tell stories, crack jokes, talk, laugh – anything but work. *(Abraham Lincoln)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**What the new job lingo really means: “Join our fast-paced company” -- We have no time to train you. “Casual work atmosphere” -- We don't pay enough to expect that you'll dress up. “Must be deadline oriented" -- You'll be six months behind schedule on your first day. “Some overtime required” -- Some time each night and some time each weekend. “Duties will vary” -- Anyone in the office can boss you around. “Must have an eye for detail” -- We have no quality control. “Career-minded” -- Female applicants must be childless (and remain that way). “No phone calls, please” -- We've filled the job; our call for resumes is just a legal formality. “Seeking candidates with a wide variety of experience” -- You'll need to replace three people who just left. “Problem-solving skills a must” -- You're walking into a company in perpetual chaos. *(Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**A young worker who had been loafing for most of the past year approached an older man just before he was to be interviewed for a raise. “Do you think,” he asked anxiously, “that if I really work hard for the next two weeks, I’ll get a raise?’ “Son,” the older worker replied, “you make me think of a thermometer in a cold room. You can make a register higher by holding your hand over it, but you won’t be warming the room.” *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The best time to look for work is after you get the job*. (Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**If you make your job important, it is quite likely to return the favor. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Unless a job means more than money it will seldom return more than money. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Few men ever drop dead from overwork, but many quietly curl up and die because of under-satisfaction. *(Sydney Harris)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**You’ve got to work like it’s your first day on the job every day. *(Nicki Minaj, in Marie Claire)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**People who are more interested in the work than in the money, usually make more money. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Husband: “Well, I found out something at work today that didn’t surprise me. The boss has absolutely no appreciation for hard work.” Wife: “So that turned out to be the hot topic at the water cooler all day long!” *(Dean Young & John Marshall, in Blondie comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**You can do office aerobics sitting right at your desk. It consists of jumping to conclusions, ducking responsibility, coming to grips with problems, stretching your boss’s patience, sidestepping difficulty, and pushing your luck. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**You know you’re overworked when you fall down and wonder what else you can do while you’re down there. *(Catholic Digest)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now. (*Steven Wright)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**While I work I leave my body outside the door, the way Moslems take off their shoes before entering the mosque. *(Pablo Picasso)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The best preparation for work is not thinking about work, talking about work, or studying for work: it is work. *(William Weld)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The best way to get relief from a monotonous task is to think up ways of improving it. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Before you send out your next resume, weed out the goofs, cautions recruiting executive Robert Half, who has been collecting examples of “resumania” for years. Some of his favorites: “Please call after 5:30 p.m. because I am self-employed and my employer does not know I am looking for another job.” “I am very conscientious and accurate.” “I am also a notary republic.” “The firm currently employs 20 odd people.” “My consideration will be given to relocation anywhere in the English-speaking world and/or Washington, D.C.” Under physical disabilities: “Minor allergies to house cats and Mongolian sheep.” And reasons given for leaving the last job: “The company made me a scapegoat -- just like my previous three employers did.” *(Business Times)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work of the eye is done; now go and do heart-work. *(Rainer Maria Rilke)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The man with the best job in the country is the vice president. All he has to do is get up every morning and say, "How is the president?" *(Will Rogers)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Ninety percent of the work done in this country is done by people who don’t feel well. *(Teddy Roosevelt)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing. *(Theodore Roosevelt)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**The highest reward for a person’s toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it.**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/) ***(John Ruskin)***

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[**Work is of two kinds: First, altering the position of matter at or near the earth’s surface relative to other matter. Second, telling other people to do so. *(Bertrand Russell, English philosopher, mathematician and social reformer)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**One of the symptoms of an approaching nervous breakdown is the belief that one’s work is terribly important. *(Bertrand Russell)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Know that even when you are in the kitchen, our Lord moves amidst the pots and pans. *(St. Teresa of Avila)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work never hurt anyone. More people rust out than wear out. But not me. I'll be damned if I'll ever rust out. *(Colonel Sanders)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**While standing outside the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., Billy asks his Mom: “Can we go in there and see if our senators are doin’ any work?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When I was young I observed that nine out of ten things I did were failures, so I did ten times more work. *(George Bernard Shaw)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**“How’s your new job at the factory?” one guy asked another. “I’m not going back there.” “Why not?” “So many reasons,” he answered. “The sloppiness, the shoddy workmanship, the awful language … they just couldn’t put up with it.” *(Mell Lazarus, Creators Syndicate)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Pray as if everything depended on God, and work as if everything depended upon man. *(Francis Cardinal Spellman)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The World Health Organization reported that 745,000 people died in 2016 from stroke and heart disease caused by working long hours. The research found that working 55 hours or more a week was associated with a 35 percent higher risk of stroke and a 17 percent higher risk of dying from heart disease. *(BBC.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, May 28, 2021)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**“Everything is going wrong,” said the depressed man to his minister. “Life isn’t worth living.” “Please don’t say that,” responded his minister. “Let work be your salvation. I want you to totally submerge yourself in your work for the next month. What do you do for a living?” “I clean out septic tanks,” the man replied. *(Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The only place you find success before work is in the dictionary. *(May V. Smith)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The work will teach you how to do it. *(Estonian proverb)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Thank God – every morning when you get up – that you have something to do which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you a hundred virtues which the idle never know. *(Charles Kingsley)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Thoreau tells of the time he asked an old Irishman how many potatoes he could dig in a day. “Well,” was the reply, “I don’t keep any account. I just scratch away and let the day’s work praise itself.” *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work to become, not to acquire. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**I do not like work even when someone else does it. *(Mark Twain)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do, and play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do. *(Mark Twain, in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Unemployment is capitalism’s way of getting you to plant a garden. (*Orson Scott Card, author)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**The trouble with unemployment is that the minute you wake up in the morning, you’re on the job. *(Slappy White, comedian)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I used to work at the unemployment office. I hated it because when they fired me, I had to show up at work anyway. *(Wally Wong)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Where I used to work: “I used to work in an orange juice factory, until I got canned. Yeah, they put the squeeze on me, said I couldn't concentrate.” “I used to be a lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the ax.” “I used to work in a muffler factory until I got exhausted.” “I used to be a musician, but I wasn't noteworthy.” “I used to be a doctor, but I didn't have the patients.” *(Rocky Mountain News)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all. *(Peter Drucker, management expert)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn’t. *(Martin Van Buren)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I put my heart and my soul into my work and have lost my mind in the process. *(Vincent van Gogh, painter)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**James Suzman’s version of human history “has a quasi-biblical feel,” said Philip Coggan in The Economist. In his ambitious new book, Work: A Deep History, From the Stone Age to the Age of Robots, about the history of work, the U.K. anthropologist draws on his research among hunter-gatherers in the Kalahari Desert to paint a picture of pre-agrarian life that appears almost Edenic. Unlike today’s harried wage earners, hunter-gatherers, he tells us, devoted only 15 to 17 hours a week to gathering food and another 15 to 20 to domestic chores. Otherwise, they enjoyed themselves, justifiably confident their resources wouldn’t fail them. The agricultural revolution expelled us from that paradise, and Suzman’s fashionably grim view of the fallout “may spike a chord with many readers”: He doesn’t deny the positive effects of that revolution but argues that we’ve been relatively discontented ever since. *(The Week magazine, February 5, 2021)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**There is a kind of victory in good work, no matter how humble. *(Rep. Jack Kemp)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Work spares us from three great evils: boredom, vice and need. *(Voltaire)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**When we have to keep our eye on the ball, our ears to the ground, our shoulders to the wheel, our nose to the grindstone, our heads level, and both feet on the ground, the wonder is we get any work done in such a position. *(Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**I know I'm old-fashioned but I believe my wife shouldn't work. She should just stay at home and do the cooking, the washing, the ironing, the cleaning. *(The Friars Club Bible, edited by Nina Colman, p. 77)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**You can hire people to work for you, but you must win their hearts to have them work with you*. (Bits & Pieces)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Done Is Better Than Perfect: The main reason “woman’s work is never done” is that they just can’t leave well enough alone. *(John W. Klase)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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[**Ernest: “Hey, Frank, look at all these great thoughts about the value of the work ethic! My parents planted the work ethic in my mind, but I think my body rejected it.” *(Bob Thaves, in Frank & Ernest comic strip)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**Do you know about the new therapy group for people who put in 12- and 14-hour days? It's called Workaholics Anonymous. Whenever you get the urge to work too long or too hard, you call them up and two people from City Hall come over to talk to you. *(Orben's Current Comedy)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

[**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)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

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