

**Title: Father's Business**  
**Pastor: Heinrich Titus**  
**Date: 26 July 2009**  
**Time: 18:00**



### **Missing: Son of God**

#### **Luke 2:42-50**

<sup>42</sup>And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. <sup>43</sup>When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; <sup>44</sup>but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances... <sup>46</sup>Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.

### **His Father's business**

#### **Luke 2:48-50**

<sup>48</sup>So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." <sup>49</sup>And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

### **Father's will = Father's business = Father's kingdom**

#### **John 5:30**

"I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

### **Father's business = father's will = our daily bread**

#### **John 4:31-34, 37**

In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." <sup>32</sup>But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." <sup>33</sup>Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work... <sup>37</sup>"For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup>"I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

### **The divine business plan**

#### **1. Life eternally**

##### **John 3:16**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup>"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

##### **Revelation 5:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, <sup>10</sup>And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

#### **2. Life here and now**

##### **John 10:10**

<sup>10</sup>"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

## The opposition

### 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

<sup>4</sup>For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,  
<sup>5</sup>casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God,  
bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

“I condemn Christianity; I bring against the Christian Church the most terrible of accusations that an accuser has ever had in his mouth. It is to me, the greatest of all imaginable corruptions; it seeks to work the ultimate corruption, nothing untouched by its depravity;... it had turned every value into worthlessness, and every truth into a lie, and every integrity into baseness of soul.”

Nietzsche, *The Anti-Christ*

“We are fighting against the perversion of our soundest instincts. Ah, the God of deserts, that crazed, stupid, vengeful Asiatic despot with his powers to make laws!...that poison with which both the Jews and the Christians have spoiled and soiled the free, wonderful instincts of man and lowered them to the level of doglike fright...”

“If the otherwise admirable pagan civilizations of Greece and their Roman successors had had the wit to laugh Judaism into destruction, the world would have been spared the 2000-year sickness of Christendom.”

*The Ten Commandments: Ten Short Novels of Hitler's War against the Moral Code*

If that were the case, we would have to wipe away:

- Hospitals, universities, literacy and education for the masses
- Individual work ethic and free enterprise
- Separation of political powers
- Abolition of slavery
- Discovery of the new world
- Elevation of women
- Charity based upon the Good Samaritan ethic
- Condemnation of adultery, homosexuality, pedophilia and other sexual perversions
- High regard for human life ...
- Abolition of infanticide and condemnation of abortion
- Care for the aged
- Codifying and setting to writing of many of the world's languages
- Countless changed lives transformed from liabilities into assets of society....

### Without Christ...

- None of the inspirational Architecture of the West as reflected in the great cathedrals
- None of the greatest work of Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci, or Rembrandt van Rijn
- No Dante, Chaucer, John Donne, William Shakespeare, Victor Hugo, John Bunyan, John Milton, Charles Dickens, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Leo Tolstoy, T.S. Elliot, C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien to name but a few, not mentioning those whose work reflected Christian themes

“More poems have been written, more stories told, more pictures painted, and more songs sung about Christ than any other person in human history.”

*Cynthia Maus, Christ and the Fine Arts*

### Without Christ...

- No George Frideric Handel,
- Antonio Vivaldi (a priest)
- No Johann Sebastian Bach who dedicated every single note of his music to the glory of God: *Soli Deo Gloria!*

### **Their father's business**

"Bach is to music what Shakespeare is to literature"

### **Without Christ...**

No "*Amazing grace!* How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see!"

John Newton, former slave trader and friend to William Wiberforce

### **My Father's business**

#### **Luke 2:51-52**

<sup>51</sup>Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

### **Fast forward**

#### **Mark 6:1-3**

<sup>1</sup>He left there and returned to his hometown. His disciples came along. <sup>2</sup>On the Sabbath, he gave a lecture in the meeting place. He made a real hit, impressing everyone. "We had no idea he was this good!" they said. How did he get so wise all of a sudden, get such ability? <sup>3</sup>But in the next breath they were cutting him down: "He's just a carpenter—Mary's boy. We've known him since he was a kid. We know his brothers, James, Justus, Jude, and Simon, and his sisters. Who does he think he is?" They tripped over what little they knew about him and fell, sprawling. And they never got any further.

### **Honour the process**

#### **Luke 19:17**

"And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'