



MEDITATIONS ON LABOR | *By David F. Coffin, Jr.*

*To Sanctify One's Experience in a World Under the Curse of God**

Consider these truths that accord with godliness:

1. Quite apart from the curse, I was designed by God to become what I was created to be through labor. The curse does not abrogate God's purpose; I must embrace the wisdom and goodness of my Creator.
2. Considered as sinner, there is justice in the hardships I face. I deserve this in Adam and of myself—this and much more.
3. Yet I see the mercy of God, that even with the hardships, labor still does produce fruit, for me and for all of the Fallen sons and daughters of Adam.
4. I must learn to see in my experience more clearly what Christ has redeemed me from—knowing that frustration and vanity will finally be all there is for the unrepentant—and thus should I be grateful.
5. By faith I know that in Christ the sin-sting of the curse has been removed entirely; in Him the remaining pain and frustration will be sanctified to me by prayer, patience, and perseverance.
6. So must I set my heart in heaven—one day I will receive a gracious reward for today's labor, and what remains of the curse that troubles my service will be removed entirely. Thus may I labor on in hope.

With such truths worked into your mind and heart through diligent meditation, your way of life will be full, rich, abundant. Your labor will not be in vain, and you will not grow weary in doing good. You will abound in the work given you by the Lord, steadfast and immovable. And by this you will fit yourself for heaven, the godly worker's paradise, where in the very presence of God we will for all ages be a part of the unfolding of His plan for creation, and the revelation of all that we are meant to be as sons and daughters of the Most High.

* "And to Adam God said, "... cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground. . . ." (Genesis 3:17-19)