

God's Satisfaction with His Works

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*God is satisfied with his works
(Gen. 1:31)*

*God is dissatisfied with his works
(Gen. 6:6)*

The apparent Biblical contradiction mentioned above is a misuse of what scripture actually says. In Genesis 1:31, God simply states that everything He created was very good. Therefore nothing was sub-standard, which fits other scriptures regarding the subject of work.

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might... (Eccl. 9:10a; cf. Col. 3:23; NKJV used throughout unless noted).

God does not appreciate a half-hearted approach to work, nor does He appreciate those who seem to think that sub-standard products, services, or efforts are acceptable.

And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably? (Mal. 1:8; cf. vs. 13).

But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. ²⁶So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest' (Mt. 25:26-27).

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be

ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2Tim. 2:15).

God also expects behavior to be appropriate for the situation.

If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a serpent? (Lk. 11:11-12).

Therefore, Almighty God did not participate in a half-hearted, sub-standard, or inappropriate creation. Instead, he made everything to the highest standard and appropriate for the purpose it was meant to serve.

The attempt to take this truth about God's creation and then turn it around to say that God contradicted Himself when He said that He was sorry (sorrowful) and grieved that He had made man is a twisting of scripture (cf. 2Pet. 3:16). The fault was not in the work that God had done. The fault was with the sinful choices that mankind made since they were created. It had nothing to do with the original creation which the Lord was pleased with. Detractors conveniently omit the section of scripture that precedes the single verse they use to claim that the Lord contradicted Himself in Genesis 6:6.

Therefore, this verse will be included in the following quotation so that the context is preserved.

Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually (all the day). ⁶And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart (Gen. 6:5-6).

The apostle Paul mentioned a similar situation when he explained that the law and

commandments of God were good, and the reason animal sacrifices had to be introduced to the nation of Israel during the First Covenant period, was due to their sinful practices. So the problem was with the people and not with what God was doing for them.

For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸Because finding fault with them (nation of ancient Israel), He says: 'Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah (Heb. 8:7-8ff; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

By misrepresenting what was said in Genesis 1:31 and then claiming that Genesis 6:6 contradicts Genesis 1:31, some people are attempting to create a diversion from the truth. The truth is that everything God created was very good and He was pleased with it, but after mankind began exercising the freedom of choice they were given at creation God was grieved because their choices were evil and leading to the point where society at that time was completely lawless and about to break down. So the fault was with the people and that was the real change that had taken place since the original creation. It was not God who changed and therefore He did not contradict Himself. Instead, Genesis 6:5-6 proves that God cares for His creation and it is because God loves mankind that He instituted His law and commandments which guarantee a law-abiding society with all the benefits that come with it (1Jn. 5:3).

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