

REST: A Worker's Prayer

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HISTORY

Received: 9 October 2022

Accepted: 2 July 2023

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Thoughts

Hustle, bustle, sweat, grind
Doing everything and nothing; all the time.
Is this the life I choose; what I've prepared for:
Working so hard all these years so I could...
Work some more?
All in a day: achieve, achieve!
Run around, fumble, scramble, think.
And when you think you'll catch reprieve,
It's time to run after the next thing.
Schedule it in; get it done-
It's not your job, but who will ask?
Later, there'll be time for fun...
'You're done? Oh, good! Here's your next task...'
Strain and strive; keep it together
Welcome to the curse of man.
Falling apart; but does it matter?
See, you're not the only one.
Your boss is pressured by his boss,
Hers is stressed by somebody else.
Vicious cycle- and for what cause:
So we upgrade our prison cells?

Fancy cars get us to the place
 Where we slave for the next model;
 Better food meets our acquired tastes
 But we're no healthier for all our trouble.
 We strive to mount a certain stage
 But those who get there realise
 There're very real bars to this golden cage
 Invisible to the million envying eyes.
 For all intents, we live the life
 Yet each day, we die a little more
 So when our days finally come to night
 Would it all have been worth fighting for?
 Who do we work for? What is our work about?
 If we knew, we might salvage the wreck.
 To what does all our toil amount?
 Cause, like it or not, we *have to* work.

Prayer

Lord, give us love for the work we do-
 And gratitude to be employed at all-
 For the people, the projects and even the tools;
 May Your presence liven the moments dull.
 Lord, give us pleasure in what we do
 If not, go with us where we should be.
 Let us work; not for man, but for You
 That all who witness it give You glory.
 Open our eyes so we may see
 What to go for; what to forgo.
 Depend on You to supply our needs
 And trust in Your plans for tomorrow.
 Oh Lord, grant us rest in our labour
 Bless us with joy in what we do
 Father, smile on our work; grant us favour
 May we find the significance we seek: in You.

Amen