

THE PURITAN'S DILEMMA

MARTIN LUTHER: *The Secular Calling*

All work is service to the Lord and contributes toward one's salvation. However, one is saved by Grace alone.



JOHN CALVIN: *Predestination*

If God is omniscient, He knows the future, and therefore He knows whether or not one will be saved or damned.



PURITAN ETHIC *Hard work and asceticism*

The individual's task is to increase the glory of God, to do His will, and to fulfill His Commandments. One must especially guard against being tempted into the temporal sins of this life by the Devil. Life is thus to be pure work, removed from distracting joy & pleasure, in the service of God.

THE FUNCTIONAL SOLUTION

Hard work produces wealth.

Wealth is not to be squandered on indulgent sinful pleasures of the flesh but accepted as a sign of success.

Success is God's covert signal that you are Saved and a member of the Elect.

Wealth, rather than being squandered, is re-invested in work, increasing productivity, thus increasing wealth and a greater sense of being Saved.

- The best way to increase productivity ⇨ wealth ⇨ Saved

is to be as **RATIONAL** as POSSIBLE in creating **WEALTH!**



