God is at work and He loves it!

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Business as Mission

- How can we shape business for God and the common good?
- How can business …
  serve *people*,
  align with God's *purposes*,
  be good stewards of the *planet*,
  and make a *profit*
  …among all peoples

BAM is a re-discovery
Martin Luther

Martin Luther

"A cobbler, a smith, a farmer, each has the work and the office of his trade, and they are all alike consecrated priests and bishops, and every one by means of his own work or office must benefit and serve every other, that in this way many kinds of **work may be done for the bodily and spiritual welfare of the community,** *even as all the members of the body serve one another ."*

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:
'Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Also ***seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile'***

(Jeremiah 29:4-7, NIV)

Daniel & friends

- Exile
- Babylon / Iraq
- Nebuchadnezzar / Saddam Hussein

God equips for civil service

- [4] young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve…
- [17] To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges God

[47] The king said to Daniel, "Surely **your God** is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery."

Nebuchadnezzar's response

[28] Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.

[29] Therefore I decree that the **people of any nation or language** who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way."

Personal encounter with God

Nebuchadnezzar the king,

To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you.

I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has **worked for me.**

Daniel survives the lions' den

[25] Then King Darius wrote to **all the nations and peoples of every language in all the earth**:

[26] "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel.

"For he is the living God
  and he endures forever;
his kingdom will not be destroyed,
  his dominion will never end.
[27] He rescues and he saves;
  he performs signs and wonders
  in the heavens and on the earth.
He has rescued Daniel
  from the power of the lions."

Lessons learned

- It may just be another day, week, month, year, decade in the office
- But God will intervene in his time
- He can even use brutal dictators
- Core values: professionalism, excellence and integrity
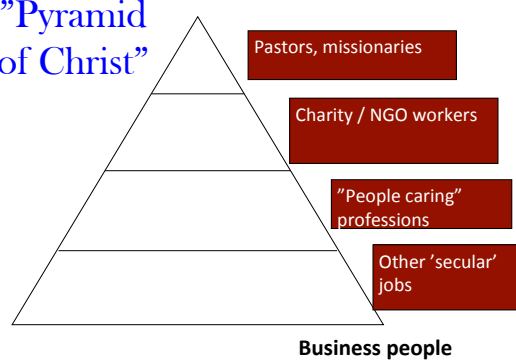- Civil Service as Mission

Remember…

- **Jeremia**: "…*seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you…*"
- **Luther**: "…*and every one by means of his own work or office must benefit and serve every other, that in this way many kinds of work may be done for the bodily and spiritual welfare of the community…*"

Business as Misison

- How can we shape business for God and the common good?
- How can business serve **people**, align with God's **purposes**, be good stewards of the **planet**, and make a **profit** - among all nations
- Core values: professionalism, excellence and integrity

"Pyramid of Christ"

Pastors, missionaries

Charity / NGO workers

"People caring" professions

Other 'secular' jobs

Business people

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Business as Mission

- Modern day examples from around the world

Praise God - it's Monday morning…

… and I will continue my fulltime ministry…