Making the most of our allocation

11.1.26

MM Copy

Ephesians 5:15-16.

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. NLT

I. A deeper dive into the passage

--Be careful

So be careful how you live.

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,

Investigate/ Be alert

What do we investigate?

Make wise use of your time.

Pray

James 1:5 Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him.

Study

Psalm 119:99 **5** Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him.

Ask your community

--Making the most of every opportunity

16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

"A measured, allocated, fixed season" John Macauthor

"Making the most" also means redeeming

NKJV **15** See then that you walk [a]circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

II. Observations on time

A. Time is……..

Short

Psalm 39:4-5 "Lord, make me aware of my end
and the number of my days
so that I will know how short-lived I am.
5 In fact, you have made my days just inches long,
and my life span is as nothing to you.
Yes, every human being stands as only a vapor.*Selah*

Not guaranteed

> James 4:13-14 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit.” **14** Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like vapor that appears for a little while, then vanishes.

Cannot be replaced

B. What is the implication of this?

Since time is short, not guaranteed and cannot be replaced….we must

-Work!

> Eph 2: **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

> John 9:4 **4** We[a] must do the works of him who sent me[b] while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. **5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

III Where can we make the most of our allotment?

In our personal life

In our family

In our church

In our circle

VI. Why should we make the most of our allotment??

A. Because time is working against us

B. Because cultural values are working against us

I John 2:15-**15** Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. **16** For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.

C. Because the ultimate enemy is working against us

I Peter 5:8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

John 10:10 The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

Romans 8:

31 What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

Close:

I wasted time, and now doth time waste me.
William Shakespeare