

Time Management Ephesians 5:15-17

QUESTION: What One thing Must Change?

Answer: The Use of My Allotted Time on Earth!

1. The believer and his life principle (vs.15).

See then – to look and carefully observe, not a casual glance.

That – purpose clause. Remember why you are here.

Walk circumspectly – has the meaning of being accurate and exact.

Not as fools – the scriptures can be very blunt. When we sin and continue to walk in sin (darkness), we are not walking in wisdom (light); we are walking as (like) fools.

2. The believer and his limited privileges (5:16).

Redeeming – to make the most of a purchase.

- The Greek is in the ***middle*** voice, indicating that we are to buy up all the time up for ourselves—for our own use but in the Lord's service.
- You can't make time. You can't borrow time. You can't save time. You can't extend time. You can only use time! That's why we all get the same amount.

Time – Paul did not use ***chronos***, the term for clock time, the continuous time that is measured in hours, minutes, and seconds. He rather used ***kairos***, which denotes a measured, allocated, fixed season or epoch.

- The idea of a fixed period is also seen in the use of the definite article in the Greek text, which refers to the time.

Paul pleads for us to make the most of our time immediately after he pleads for us to walk wisely rather than foolishly. Outside of purposeful disobedience of God's Word, the most spiritually foolish thing a Christian can do is to waste time and opportunity, to fritter away his life in trivia and half-hearted service of the Lord. ~ Dr. John MacArthur

The Importance of Time Management:

1. Time is our most precious commodity.

- It's far more important than money.
- You can get more money, but you can't get more time. You only have a certain amount allotted to you in this life.

2. We cannot change time, only our **priorities**.

A. Time is unemotional.

B. Time is uncontrolled.

C. Time is unencumbered.

3. We cannot do everything. **NO is a complete sentence!**

4. We choose our life by how we spend our time.

5. Priorities help us to choose wisely.

A. Evaluate priorities daily.

B.Plan your time very carefully.

C.Follow your plan.

The days are evil – if they were evil then, to do you think they have improved?

- Time is going by and evil will use it if Christians don't.
- One of Satan's strategies is to get you busy doing unimportant things that you don't have time for the important things in life—like preparing for eternity.
- If Satan can't get you to be bad, he'll get you to be busy.

3. The believer and the Lord's purposes (5:17).

- Most people never get to the Lord's purposes because they make foolish choices and they don't redeem (prioritize) their time.
- This second warning is for scriptural emphasis and restates verse ten.
- The call to live wisely is not a call to theoretical knowledge.

- It is a call for *moral* discernment and a *practical* skill in making decisions.
- The emphasis once again is the mind (understanding) and on careful attention to keep life on target, the target being that which pleases Christ and fits His purposes.
- God has a plan for my life unlike that of the gods of Ephesus.
- I must view my time in view of eternity.

SPECIAL NOTE: I'M 64 AND HAVE 7 YEARS LEFT IF AVERAGE!