

Intro: "How are you?" "How are things?" "How was your week?" "How are things for your family?" "How's work?" "How's Life?" "BUSY." "CRAZY." **We never feel like we have enough time.** **Gollum's Riddle:** "This thing all things devours: Birds, beasts, trees, flowers; Gnaws iron, bites steel; Grinds hard stones to meal; Slays king, ruins town, And beats high mountain down."
What if your answers to these questions were different?

Thesis: "Glorifying & Enjoying our God of Time"

I. The God of Time (1-6)

- A. Probably the first Psalm written, or at least recorded and preserved. Moses's only one. Pretty cool when you think about it. We're reading a prayer of Moses! **Time's important.**
- B. Before Mountains. Everlasting/Eternal. Days/Thousands. Dream. **Outside time.**

ILLUSTRATION: Marvel. Kang the Conqueror. Considered most powerful villain because He's outside of time. He can jump in and out of timeline whenever He wants, he can see the end of a timeline, He can jump in and change a timeline. He's the King of Time. Controls time. King.

APPLICATION: Stewards. Served the King with His resources/property. Time belongs to God. He's the King of Time. That means it's just on loan to us. Every hour you sleep, eat, rest, work, play, serve, waste in sin, is God's time that He has given you to steward.

> "Look Busy!" "Look like you're doing something!" **Well, God's always watching.**

> **My day is not my day**, it's God's day that He's lending me. What has He told me to do with it?

II. Victims of Time (7-11)

- A. **Our Time is limited.** 70maybe 80yrs. Sometimes more, not common. **Moses 120yrs.**

ILLUSTRATION: Anti-aging industry: *skincare, hair care, supplements, injectables, technologies like laser, ultrasound, radio-frequency to reduce the appearance of wrinkles, age spots, and other signs of aging.* \$63billion in 2021, it is projected to reach \$93billion by 2027.

- B. **People don't want to admit that they're victims of time.** *They're bodies age. They get old. Eventually if Jesus doesn't come back first, they die.*

APPLICATION: One day, we'll be freed from time. We won't be constrained by aging, lack of energy, weariness, worry, procrastination, stress. We'll be visit all the places we want to see. We could walk there because "what's the hurry?" We've got a thousand years and more.

III. Redeeming Time (12-17)

- A. **Eph.5:15-16:** "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, **making the best use of (redeeming) the time, b/c the days are evil.**"
- B. **Col. 4:5:** "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, **making the best use of the time.**"
- C. **"Busy."** **Busyness** seems to be a stamp of pride in our culture. Idol. "I'm needed." "I'm wanted." "I'm important." "My time is valuable." "My skills, wisdom, presence are indispensable." Well, in a way that's true. But who's time is it. Who is it meant to be for?
- D. ***vv14/17.* WSC#1. Man's Chief End?** To **glorify** God and to **enjoy** Him forever.
- E. ***v.12*** **"Number our days."** I actually think **this is a grace.** Most time-management books/thinkers break it down to minutes. **168/week. 1440 minutes/day. "Days awash."**
- F. **Instead, wake up each morning:** "Jesus. Help today to be used for your glory, my joy."

ILLUSTRATION: The Israelites. 40 years in the wilderness. If anyone knew what it felt like to waste time, it was them. It was Moses. Moses as a leader had to watch this happen.

APPLICATION/CONCLUSION: (next page)

1. **What if my perspective changed from My time to God's time?** Time itself is a resource, given as a gift from God, on loan to us, to be used/stewarded for His glory and our joy. He's given us guide/manual that tells us what to do with time, how to use time and even enjoy it.
2. **What if our concept of wasting time changed?**
 - > **"I'm BUSY."** **What if staying busy for busyness sake, b/c it makes us feel important is a waste of time?** What if overworking, always feeling behind, not finding joy in each day, not seeking opportunities to glorify God in each day is a waste of time. What if living in consistent frustration, exhaustion, anger, disappointment, bitterness, or an anxious state is a waste of time? Even if you are paying the bills and getting the toys? Are you glorifying/enjoying God?
 - > **What if resting/idleness** as an expression of being easy-going, laid-back, restful un-worrisome, un-hurried, is actually your being a sluggard, lazy, glutton and entitled? Not as a way to glorify & enjoy God with your rest & relaxation. That's what Sunday is for. **Rest/Worship.**
3. **Time is one of our most valuable resources. We prioritize whatever we give our time to.**
 - **Relationships?** Who do you spend the most time with? That's your **priority.**
 - **Downtime?** Mostly used for yourself, close relationships, friends, serving? **Priority.**
 - **Time:** Sleep, work/money/position, hobbies, recreation, health, friendships, reading, entertainment, tv, social media, reading, friendships, family, serving, etc. **Prioritize.**
 - **Work. Time is money.** Wake up early, get ready, make it to work, make it to meeting. **Priority.** "I have to go work to keep my job, pay bills, provide for family. Agree. All **important. Priority.**
 - **If you work, but don't** read your Bible, don't pray, don't make it to church consistently, don't exercise, don't study, read, grow and learn; you have made a **priority** decision in your life.
 - **I'm not actually offering you solutions today,** I'm just challenging you to consider a different mindset. What cultural rhythm and assumptions have you fallen captive to? You're more influenced by the world and worldly mindset than you think. Than we think! Me too!
 - **I as a pastor** have options each week to go to certain meetings/events and not others, to read a little extra today, to spend more time in God's Word this week not just on my sermon, to spend more time intentionally and thoughtfully praying for people, activities and opportunities and the fruitful effects of our church and ministry, to meet with certain people and not others, to take or make certain phone calls and not others, to read/answer certain emails, how thoroughly to answer them, to look for more opportunities to serve, to do more fundraising this week or none at all, to spend more time digging, preparing for sermon, etc. If I choose to use that time chasing rabbit trails on blogs, facebook, youtube, books I don't need to read, in conversations that are not as important as ones I could be having, in unnecessary or drawn out meetings, lingering over lunch, then I too have made a priority decision.
 - **I need grace. We need grace.** Because we waste a lot of time. **I've got whole days, weeks and even years that I feel like I've wasted.** I know I need grace. Every day we get grace. We're given more time. Given new opportunities. We don't want to be legalistic or moralistic about this, this is all based on a desire to live in gratitude. Jesus, thank you for today. New.
4. **There's grace.** Think in terms of days, not hours or minutes. **"His mercies are new every morning."** Jesus, thank you for yesterday. Give me another one today." Or..."Jesus, forgive me for yesterday. Help me today." "Jesus, I need your help to use my time wisely today. To say 'yes' to what I need to and 'No' to what I need to. Help me to prioritize well today. I really want to. I want to glorify you with my time. I want to enjoy my time with you even if it is work, obligations, hard relational interactions, monotonous or unplanned tasks. Help me Jesus." I need grace.
5. **The One Person who did this because we can't?** Jesus. Lived half a lifetime (33yrs), accomplished more with His life than any of us ever could. He did that for us.