

Redeeming The Time

I. Introduction:

A. Death is a certainty, unless Christ returns first (**II Peter 3:10**), that we will all face (**II Samuel 14:14**, **Psalms 89:48**, **Ecclesiastes 9:5**, and **Hebrews 9:27**).

1. Israel was told to number their days to apply their hearts to wisdom (**Psalms 90:1-12**).
2. Isn't it wise to consider our frailty (**Psalms 39:4**)?
3. Aren't we wise to think about how life could be over for all humanity in an instant (**Luke 12:35-40**)?

B. Consider Hezekiah's thoughts when told to have his house in order (**II Kings 20:1-7** and **Isaiah 38:9-20**).

II. Body: **Ephesians 5:14-17** and **Colossians 4:5**

A. A brief look at some terms:

1. Redeeming: "to buy up, i.e. ransom; figuratively, to rescue from loss (improve opportunity): — redeem..." (Strong's # 1805).
2. Time: "an occasion, i.e. set or proper time: — always, opportunity, (convenient, due) season, (due, short, while) time, a while..." (Strong's #2540).
3. The days are evil (**I John 5:19**).
4. Consider the thought of taking your time back from this evil world that wants to take it all from you (**I Corinthians 7:31**)!

B. Consider **Ecclesiastes 8:5-8** and **Ecclesiastes 9:9-12**

1. In discerning time and judgment, think about what's coming in our end (**Deuteronomy 32:29** and **Matthew 24:36-51**)?
2. What does your life look like when you think about how you have spent your time, energy, money, etc. (**Ecclesiastes 2:1-11**; **2:21-24**)?
3. How often do people mismanage responsibilities (**Luke 10:38-42**)?
 - a. A man wants to be a "good provider" (**I Timothy 5:8**), but spends little to no time with his family (**Proverbs 4:1-4**).
 - b. In general, as parents, what about fighting for the souls of your children (**Proverbs 19:18**, **Proverbs 29:15**, **Ephesians 6:4**, and **II Timothy 1:5**; **3:15**)? Your children need more attention than your hobbies, sleep, social media accounts, etc.
 - c. People search the Scriptures (**John 5:39** and **Acts 17:10-11**), but misplace the applications (**Matthew 22:23-24**).
4. Learn from stages of life. As you age, how important were many things you look back on in your youth (**Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1**)?
5. How many people die with the "would've, should've, could've" statements? What should our last thoughts be like (**II Timothy 4:6-8**)?

6. Think about those in torment that wish they would've done it differently (**Luke 16:19-31**).

7. Don't we know better? Don't we know to live purposed, prepared lives (**Matthew 25:1-13**)?

C. How does your mindset play into time management (**Romans 13:13-14**)?

1. This is not to say we cannot "enjoy life" (**Ecclesiastes 5:18** and **I Peter 3:10**).

2. How do you balance the two? Don't allow the carnal liberties to enjoy life overtake our spiritual preparedness (**I Peter 2:11**).

D. What happens if we spend our time foolishly (**Luke 12:13-21**)?

1. We shouldn't think tomorrow is sure to come (**Proverbs 27:1** and **James 4:13-16**).

2. Think about the illustration that flesh is like grass (**Psalms 103:14-15** and **I Peter 1:24**).

3. Don't just think about the Judgment Day though. Ask what impact your life will have on those around you in their future too (**II Thessalonians 3:7** and **Hebrews 6:12**)!

III. Conclusion: Live With The Idea Of Now (**II Corinthians 6:1-2**).