

USE YOUR TIME WISELY

By Pastor Greg Hooker

“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16).

How many times have you heard the phrase, ‘That was a big waste of time’? If you are like me, you’ve probably said it many times yourself! The fact is, every one of us could use a lesson in ‘time management’. Why?...Because time is a precious commodity in high demand, but short in supply.

The Apostle Paul, writing to the church at Ephesus, exhorted the early Christians to “redeem” the time. The word he incorporates in this verse conveys the connotation to “purchase”, or to “buy back”. In other words, we are to rescue, or recover our time from waste. Rather than wasting it on trivial matters that have no value; we should use our limited time for things that will make an eternal difference.

God is not saying that we should ‘put our noses to the grind stone’ with no rest or relaxation, for they are certainly needed. I think what He is saying; time is of the essence and prepares us for eternal blessings in the kingdom of God. Our eternal rewards are determined by what we do during our brief stint here on earth.

In addition, God gives reason for utilizing our time wisely, *“because the days are evil”*. Everywhere we turn, temptations compete for our attention. Evil fiends lurk around every corner. Like a carrot dangled before a mule, Satan allures us with an enticing menu to tempt our carnal appetites. He seeks to draw our attention from that which is important to that which is of lessor or no value at all.

God has allotted us a certain amount of time and expects us to use it wisely. Our eternal blessings depend on it and the kingdom of God will be richer from it.

Dear Lord, I confess to you my mismanagement when it comes to time. Help me to begin today to reevaluate my priorities and begin to make better use of the time I have left. Help me to “redeem the time, because the days are evil.”

In Jesus name, your son, Pastor Greg.