

## HOLY HELPS

## TIME FLIES

***“But this I say, brethren, the time is short.”***

I Corinthians 7:29

Perhaps you have seen the words, “tempus fugit” on the face of some clocks, especially the large grandfather clocks. “Tempus fugit” is Latin for “time flies.” Why is that ticking thing on our wrists called a “watch”? Because we watch as time goes by! Henry Austin Dobson said, “Time goes, you say? Ah no! Alas, Time stays, we go!”

*Time is what we want most and use worst.*

How we use our time is determined by the value we place upon it. My observation is that the majority of people take time, and therefore, life, for granted. Hour after hour, day after day, they plod along in the doldrums of routine, with a brief pause now and then for a few hours of hilarity. Seldom do they think about running out of time unless an illness or tragedy forces them to think of their mortality. It is at that point in time, that they, who have used time in the worst way, grasp for more of that which, up until then, they have wasted.

He who wastes time, time wastes. “Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.” – Benjamin Franklin

*Time is the coinage of life.*

God gives to each of us just so many coined moments. How we spend those coins will be determined by the value we place upon them. What are you doing with the coins of time God parceled out to you? Let us “redeem the time for the days are evil” and in doing so you will be spending your time profitably.

*Time is an equal opportunity provider.*

There are 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours and 525,600 minutes in each year. We cannot hoard it up, buy, borrow or beg more of it. British Queen Elizabeth I, when near death cried, “All my possessions for a moment of time.” But time is not a commodity that can be bought and sold. Every one of us has exactly the same number of hours and minutes in a day. Nor can we stop the flow of time and put it in a bank to be used another day. Scientists may invent many new products, but can’t invent more time. “Time and tide wait for no man” is an American proverb, traceable to no one in particular, however, it is truth that can be applied to all. “The Future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whoever he is.” - C.S. Lewis

*Time is given to us as a stewardship.*

Of all people, Christians should utilize time wisely because we are stewards of all that God gives us and therefore, must give an account of the way we utilize the time He has given us. There are many God-pleasing ways to use time. Solomon, the wisest of the wise humans, wrote in the book of Ecclesiastes the best compendium on time in the Bible. Here is his evaluation of time:

“For everything there is a season,  
 And a time for every matter under heaven:  
 A time to be born, and a time to die;  
 A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
 A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
 A time to break down, and a time to build up;  
 A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
 A time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
 A time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
 A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;  
 A time to seek, and a time to lose;  
 A time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
 A time to tear, and a time to sew;  
 A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
 A time to love, and a time to hate,  
 A time for war, and a time for peace.”

- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

-

For each of us there was an instant when the pendulum of time began to sway; there will be another when the pendulum stops. Each tick of time brings us closer to the day when we must stand before our Lord and give an account of our usage of the time He gave us. Henry Martyn, scholar and missionary, was known for his conscientious use of time. He was referred to as “the man who never wasted an hour.” I wish that could be said of all of us, for, as Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “the time is short.”

**JdonJ**