



“Walking in Wisdom”

Ephesians 5:15-21

1. Look CAREFULLY how you walk (v. 15, Eph. 4:1)

A. REDEEM the Time (v. 16; 1 Cor. 10:31)

B. REASONS to Redeem the Time:

1) Redeem the time as in time CHRIST has redeemed you! (Ephesians 1:7)

“We need Jesus in all of life. We need Jesus informing our minds, and we need Jesus transforming and reforming our hearts... We need Jesus in our churches, our classrooms, and our homes. We need Jesus to remove the burden of sin at Calvary and to strengthen us for the long pilgrimage to the Celestial City. We need Jesus to walk with us through the Valley of Humiliation. We need Him to help us make the hard climb up Hill Difficulty. We need Him to pull us from the Slough of Despond and to rescue us from Doubting Castle. We need Jesus for singleness, marriage, parenting, empty-nesting, and grand-parenting. In all that we are, we need all that He is. Our need is great. But His Sufficiency is greater.”¹

2) Redeem the time as the days are EVIL (v. 16; 1 Pt. 2:11-13)

3) Redeem the time as you are called to HOLINESS. (Eph. 1:4)

4) Redeem the time as your WELFARE depends upon it.² (1 Tim. 4:7-8)

5) Redeem the time as time is SHORT and uncertain. (James 4:14)

#5. Resolved, never to lose one moment of time;
but improve it the most profitable way I possibly can.³

“Time is short. Eternity is long. It is only reasonable
that this short life be lived in the light of eternity!”⁴

“What single thing that you plan to do this year
will matter most in ten years? In eternity?”⁵

¹ Beeke & Hedges, *Thriving in Grace* (Reformation Heritage, 2020), 61.

² Jonathan Edwards, “Time is Exceedingly Precious,” *Free Grace Broadcaster*, “Redeem the Time,” #251, 2020.

³ <http://www.jonathan-edwards.org/Resolutions.html>

⁴ J.R. Miller, “What Are You Doing With Your Time,” *Grace Gems*, January 7, 2019.

⁵ Donald Whitney, “Ten Questions to Ask at the Start of a New Year,” 2003.



6) Redeem the time as time cannot be RECOVERED. (Eph. 5:14)

“Only one life, twill soon be past, Only what’s done for Christ will last.”

Charles Studd

7) Redeem the time as you are ACCOUNTABLE to God. (Eph. 2:10)

“What are you doing with your time? Every moment God gives you, has in it a possibility of beauty or usefulness--as well as something to be accounted for.”⁶

2. Understand God’s WILL (v. 17)

A. Repent of FOOLISHNESS (v. 17-18; Psalm 1)

Redeeming the Time:⁷

- 1) Cast none of it away in vain but use every minute of it as a most precious thing
- 2) Do the best and greatest good that we are able and have a call to do
- 3) Do the best things in the best manner and do as much good as possible
- 4) Part with all that need to be parted with to save our time

B. Walk by the SPIRIT (v. 18b; Col. 3:16-17)

“No time is so well spent in every day--as that which we spend upon our knees.”⁸

C. Address one another with TRUTH (v. 19, 4:15-6; Col. 1:28)

D. Give continual THANKS to God (v. 20, 5:2)

“When I look at any circumstance that God apportions me,
I am first grateful for the wrath I am not receiving in that moment...
Second, I am grateful for the blessings that are given me instead of God’s wrath....”⁹

E. SUBMIT to one another (v. 21, Col. 1:28, 3:16-17)

“I was greatly ashamed of the vileness of my former life, and I felt a strong sense of shame for all my ignorance. I had been so blind that I had never before considered the glorious beauty of Jesus Christ. I suddenly had a compelling love for the holy life and longed to do something for the praise and honor and glory of the Lord Jesus. Yes, I now felt that if I had a thousand gallons of blood in my body, I could have spilled it all for the sake of Jesus, my Lord.”¹⁰

⁶ J.R. Miller, “What Are You Doing With Your Time,” *Grace Gems*, January 7, 2019.

⁷ Richard Baxter, “Time is Your Opportunity” *Free Grace Broadcaster*, “Redeem the Time,” #251, 2020.

⁸ J.R. Miller, “What Are You Doing With Your Time,” *Grace Gems*, January 7, 2019.

⁹ Milton Vincent, *A Gospel Primer* (Focus Publishing, 2008), 48.

¹⁰ John Bunyan (Edited by Cheryl Ford), *The Pilgrim’s Progress* (Tyndale, 2016), 168.