

“Redeeming The Time!”
Ephesians 5:16

Introduction:

1. God Has Given To Us Time! Our Time!
 - Past / Present / Future – Even If It Is Unknown!
 - And We Need To “Know The Time!”
 - As We Learned Last Week!
 - God Has Given You Your Time!
 - Have You Given Your Time To God? This Week?
2. This Morning, We Look At The Process Of Giving Our Time To God!
 - Found In Ephesians 5:15-16 - “15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, / ***Redeeming the time***, because the days are evil!”
 - Not Only Are We To ***Know The Time***, But We Are To ***Redeem The Time*** As Well!
3. What Is The ***Time*** We Are To Redeem?
 - 2 Main New Testament Greek Words For “Time”:
 - Chronos - The Sequence Of Time
 - Gives The Idea Of Order!
 - Chronology! Chronometer!
 - Kairos - The Significance Of Time
 - Gives The Idea Of Opportunity!
 - This Is The Word Used In Ephesians 5:16!
 - Use The Word “Opportunity” As Well!
 - Everyone Has The Same Amount Of Time In A Day!
 - Chronos! 24 Hours!
 - Everyone Does Not Have The Same Number & Kind Of Opportunities In A Day!
 - Kairos!
 - We Must Redeem The Time – Our Opportunities – Each And Every Day, For The Lord!
4. What Is The ***Redeeming*** That We Are To Do?
 - To Buy From / To Buy Back / To Buy Up!
 - To Pay A Price To Recover Something Of Value!
 - Illustrate It This Way:
 - ***IE!*** Having Dutch Grandparents, The History & Geography Of Holland Has Always Fascinated Me! The Land Of The Netherlands Has Never Been Stable! “Netherlands” = “Lower Land” – The Geography Has Constantly Changed For Thousands Of Years, As The Sea Took Over More And More Land! In The 10th Century, The Dutch Began To Drain The Soggy, Soupy Land – But It Would Still Flood – Started Making Defenses To Keep Out The Sea! In The 16th Century, The Dutch Went On The Offensive! They Began To Take Land Back From The Sea! They Started To “Reclaim” Land & Continues To Even Today! Today, 20% (1/5) Of All Of The Land Of The Netherlands Is Reclaimed Land!
 - To Reclaim Is To Redeem!
 - To Pay A Price To Recover Something Of Value!
 - To Buy From / To Buy Back / To Buy Up!
 - The Dutch Did It With Their Land!
 - We Must Do It With Our Time!
5. How Much Of Your Time Is Reclaimed / Redeemed From This World?
 - Like The Land Of Holland, Your Time Is There!
 - For Each One Of Us! Same Amount Each Day!
 - Like The Land Of Holland, Your Time Is Limited!
 - There Is Only So Much To Use – And It Is Short!
 - Like The Land Of Holland, Your Time Is Versatile!
 - Can Use It For Many Different Things! But Once You’ve Used It, You Never Get It Back!
 - Are You “Redeeming The Time” & Opportunities God Has Given You?

1. *You Have An Obligation To Redeem Your Time!*

- Whenever There Is A Redemption – A Buying Back – There Is Always A **Person** Involved!
 - Here, **You** Are Called Upon To Redeem Your Time!
- Who **Can** Redeem Their Time?
 - Only A True Christian / A True Believer **Can** Redeem Their Time, The Way The Bible Calls You To!
 - An Unbeliever / Someone Who Is Not A True Christian **Cannot** Redeem Their Time!
 - Because They Have Not Fulfilled God's #1 Purpose For Their Life & Time!
 - Therefore, Their Time Is Already Wasted!
 - In Order To Redeem Time, You Must Be Born Again!
- Who **Will** Redeem Their Time?
 - Ephesians 5:15-16 Ties Together “Redeeming The Time” With Someone Who Is “Wise!”
 - Any Christian **Can** Redeem The Time!
 - A Wise Christian **Will** Redeem The Time!
 - Psalm 90:12 - “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom!”
- Will You Redeem Your Time & Opportunities For Your Lord?
 - This Is Your Obligation!
 - Are You Wise Or A Fool / Unwise?

2. ***You Have An Obstacle To Redeeming Your Time!***

- Whenever There Is A Redemption – A Buying Back – There Is Always A **Place** Involved!
 - **IE:** You Redeem Coupons At A Store! You Redeem A Dog From A Pound! You Redeem Land From The Sea! And You Redeem Time From The “Days That Are Evil!”
 - Ephesians 5:16 - “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil!”
- Since The Fall, Time Itself Has Needed To Be Redeemed!
 - And Will Be, In The Future!
 - But, For Now, **Your** Time Needs To Be Redeemed!
 - Because Your Time Is So Valuable! It Is Too Valuable!
 - **IE:** The Land That The Dutch First Started To Reclaim, Was A Big, Sloppy, Soupy, Muddy Mess! A Swampy Marshland! To Many, This Is What Time Has Become To Them! “The Days Are Evil!”
- It Is So Easy To Spend Your Time:
 - In Wastefulness!
 - Do You Spend Your Time In Wastefulness? Are You?
 - **IE:** Ever Wonder: “Where Did The Day Go?” & “What Did I Even Do With My Day?”
 - What Did I Accomplish? Anything To Show For It? Even More – What Did I Accomplish For The Lord?
 - Your Time Is Too Valuable!
 - So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From Wastefulness! Because The Days Are Evil!
 - In Worldliness!
 - Do You Spend Your Time In Worldliness? Are You?
 - Spending Your Time In Worldly Pursuits, Without Ever Thinking What God's Purpose For Your Time Is?
 - Your Time Is Too Valuable!
 - So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From Worldliness! Because The Days Are Evil!
 - In Wickedness!
 - Do You Spend Your Time In Wickedness? Are You?
 - Albert Barnes - “Be More Especially On Guard Against A Sinful & Unprofitable Waste Of Time!”
 - Your Time Is Too Valuable!
 - So Redeem It! Redeem Your Time From Wickedness! Because The Days Are Evil!
- **IE:** You Wouldn't Throw Away Your **Money!** But You Do Throw Away Your **Time** – Every Time You

Use Your Time For Wastefulness / Worldliness / Wickedness!

- Will You Redeem Your Time & Opportunities For Your Lord?

3. *You Have An Objective For Redeeming Your Time!*

- Whenever There Is A Redemption – A Buying Back – There Is Always A **Purpose** Involved!

- **IE:** Why Do The Dutch Reclaim / Redeem Land - For Homes / Farmland – For A Purpose!

- Our Purpose - Ephesians 5:15 - “See then that ye walk (live your life) circumspectly (carefully), not as fools (unwise), but as wise!”

- “Redeeming The Time”

- Is How We Live Wisely!

- Is How We Live Carefully!

- But Why Should We?

- Because “Redeeming The Time” Honors The One Who Is “Redeeming Your Soul!”

- If You Are A Child Of God, **You** Have Been Redeemed! **You** Have Been Reclaimed! From The Big, Sloppy, Soupy, Muddy Mess Of This World & Sin!

- Using The Same Word Found In Ephesians 5:16, We See:

- Galatians 3:13 - “Christ hath **redeemed** us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree!”

- Galatians 4:4-5 - “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, / To **redeem** them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons!”

- We Redeem The Time – Because Jesus Christ Has Redeemed Us!

- This Is Our Purpose For “Redeeming The Time!”

- Will You Redeem Your Time & Opportunities For Your Lord? The One Who Redeemed You?

4. *You Have An Opportunity To Redeem Your Time!*

- Whenever There Is A Redemption – A Buying Back – There Is Always A **Process** Involved!

- **IE:** Grocery Store / Auto Dealer - Negotiate / Process!

- How Can You **Redeem Your Time** For The Lord?

- In Your Opportunities!

- In Your Opportunity To Work! Redeem Your Time!

- Ecclesiastes 9:10 - “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest!”

- When It Is Time To Work – Work! Redeem Your Time!

- In Your Opportunity To Worship! Redeem Your Time!

- Through Prayer! Luke 21:36 - “Watch ye therefore, and pray **always**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man!” – “All The Time!” / Kairos / “At Every Opportunity”

- Through Praise! Psalm 34:1 - “I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth!”

- When It Is Time To Worship – Worship! Through Prayer & Praise! Redeem Your Time!

- In Your Opportunity To Witness! Redeem Your Time!

- Colossians 4:5 - “Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time!”

- Again, “Redeeming The Time” Is Tied In With “Wisdom!”

- But Also Tied In With Witnessing!

- See 4:3 & 4:6! All Deal With Witnessing To “Them That Are Without!”

- When It Is Time To Witness – Witness! “Buy Up” Those Opportunities That God Brings Your Way! Redeem Your Time!

- In Your Opportunity To Walk! Redeem Your Time!

- Psalm 106:3 - “Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times!”

- Use Your Time For Something Worthwhile!

- Not Something Wasteful / Worldly / Wicked!

- When It Is Time To Walk – Walk In Righteousness! Redeem Your Time!

- Also, In Your Opportunities With The Word Of God / With The People Of God / In The Service Of God!

- Don't Waste Your Time! Redeem Your Time!

Conclusion:

1. Will You Redeem Your Time & Opportunities For The Lord?
 - There Are Plenty Of Opportunities To Redeem!
 - Don't Waste Them! Don't Waste Your Time! Don't Waste Your Life! The Time God Has Given You Is Too Valuable!
2. Don't End The Time Of Your Life Like Jacob!
 - Remember Jacob? Name Means "Supplanter"! Born With His Hand On His Brother, Esau's, Heel! Bought His Brother's Birthright With A Bowl Of Soup! Stole His Brother's Blessing Through Deceit – Posing As His Brother! Tried To Manipulate His Father-In-Law's Flocks, In Order To Get More & More For Himself!
 - He Wasted So Much Of His Time! In Wasteful / Worldly / Even Wicked Pursuits!
 - Told Pharaoh In Egypt, Near The End Of His Life, "Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been!" (Genesis 47:9) – He Didn't Redeem All Of His Time!
3. Instead, Be "Redeeming The Time – Your Time – Because The Days Are Evil!" (Ephesians 5:16)
 - Go On The Offensive!
 - See Your Time Like Land That Is Covered By The Sea! It Is There! It Is Limited! Now, Go & Reclaim It! Redeem It! And Use Your Time – Every Moment Of Your Time – For The Lord Who Redeemed You!

Grace Baptist Church

Stephen Elmer, Pastor

4245 North 200 West

Greenfield, Indiana 46140

317-326-2362

www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace

www.growatgrace.org

pastor-elmer@hotmail.com