

Before It Is Too Late

Time Urgency of a Christian

Idiotic Worldly Wishes

- **Before I am 20 ... I want to be married.**
- **Before I am 30 ... I want to make a million.**
- **Before I am 40 ... I want to vacation in Europe.**
- **Before I am 50 ... I want a beach house in Florida.**
- **Before I am 60 ... I want to retire and golf every day.**

Before It Is Too Late

- **We must not delay or procrastinate in important matters.**
- **David made haste and did not delay to obey (Ps 119:60).**
- **You do not know time you have ... and it is always wasting.**
- **Most things are changing and getting worse as you delay.**
- **Some things reach a point of no return and are fully lost.**

Warnings about Time

- *He ... often reproveth ... suddenly be destroyed (Pr 29:1).*
- **God's longsuffering and patience only last so long.**
- *I gave her space to repent ... I will kill her (Rev 2:20-23).*
- **Sinners may have a space of time ... but then judgment.**
- *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil (Eph 5:16).*

Consider Suretiship

- *Give not sleep to thine eyes, nor slumber to thine eyelids.*
- *Deliver thyself as a roe from the hand of the hunter, and as a bird from the hand of the fowler (Pr 6:4-5).*
- **No sleep! Some things are more important than sleep!**
- **Consider the simile here of frantic, wild, fast, maximum effort to escape ... the intensity to keep this warning.**

Consider Career Planning

- *Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house (Pr 24:27).*
- *How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? (Pr 6:9).*
- *Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation? (Pr 27:23-24).*

Consider Punishment

- *Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil (Eccl 8:11).*
- **Some things require speed, or they lose effectiveness.**
- **If good is not done on a timely basis, the bad get worse.**
- **Punishment allowed to linger fosters bitterness.**

Consider Offences

- *Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;*
- *Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.*
- *Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.*
- *Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing (Mat 5:23-26).*

Consider Fornication

- *And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed (Pr 5:11).*
- **Fornication is fun, so they say, but then you face death.**
- **The problem: you cannot go back and undo your guilt.**
- **The problem: you cannot go back and live differently.**
- **It is too late ... do you get it? ... it is too late ... too late!**

Once a Person Dies

- **He cannot alter his life in the least degree.**
- **He will answer for his entire life in the fullest degree.**
- **He cannot love or teach any of those he left behind.**
- **Those left behind cannot do anything for the one gone.**
- **There is only one way to prepare – live today in light of it.**







Funeral Regrets

- **My mother died before I got to tell her that I loved her.**
- **He died and left no savings or insurance for his family.**
- **She died while living coldly with her husband of 25 years.**
- **He died a workaholic, leaving a big estate but no love.**
- **My enemy died before I got to forgive and bless him.**

Child Training

- *Train up a child in the way he should go (Pr 22:6).*
- **When he is old he will not depart – so train when young.**
- *Chasten thy son while there is hope (Pr 19:18).*
- **This is a job you cannot transfer, quit, or retire from.**
- **Any day you take off is a future month of pain and shame.**

Marrying in the LORD

- *Marry whom she will ... only in the Lord* (1 Cor 7:39; 11:11).
- **What is this? An independent fear of God as we define it.**
- **Remember Eden ... any tree ... but not that tree** (Gen 2:17).
- *A woman that feareth the LORD shall be praised* (Pr 31:30).
- **No affection or attention ... unless previously qualified.**

Carrying Wrath

- *Let not the sun go down upon your wrath* (Eph 4:26).
- **If you are angry at anyone, how much time do you have?**
- **Waiting just makes it harder ... and it takes a bigger toll.**
- **Every day you do not forgive, how is God forgiving you?**
- *Lest any root of bitterness ... trouble you* (Heb 12:15).

You Have a Creator

- *Remember now thy Creator ... days of thy youth (Ec 12:1).*
- **Lots of activities keep you from remembering ... be still.**
- **Now is not tomorrow ... it is today ... and tomorrow again.**
- **You are not your own ... God created you ... give Him glory.**
- **In your youth ... that does not mean next year or decade.**

Seeking the LORD

- *Seek ye the LORD while he may be found (Is 55:6-7).*
- **God can depart like from King Saul ... without recourse.**
- *Soul, thou hast much goods ... for many years (Lu 12:16-21).*
- **Everything going well in your life does not prove anything.**
- **Remember ... you cannot go back ... you will give account.**

Two Horrible Examples

- *Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee ... Felix (Acts 24:25).*
- **Two years later he was transferred ... Paul was gone.**
- *Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian (Acts 26:28).*
- **What are you almost persuaded to do or be? Do it, now!**
- **To whom much is given, much is required ... guess what?**

Procrastinating with God Is Folly

- *Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.*
- *But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

Hebrews 3:12-13

- **The first folly is that you will slide by ignoring conviction.**
- **The second folly is God's clock is ticking ... against you.**

God Has a Timetable

- *And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel** (Mk 1:15).*
- ***The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance** (II Pet 3:9).*
- ***And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not** (II Pet 2:3).*

God Has a Timetable

- *And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed (Rom 13:14).*
- *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat (Heb 5:12).*
- *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away (Jas 4:14).*

God Has a Timetable

- *And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, **pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:** (I Pet 1:17).*
- *That **he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God** (I Pet 4:2).*
- ***For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?** (I Pet 4:17).*

God Has a Timetable

- *And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, **that there should be time no longer:** (Rev 10:6).*
- *And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, **and the time of the dead, that they should be judged,** and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth (Rev 11:18).*

God Has a Timetable

- *Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, **because he knoweth that he hath but a short time** (Rev 12:12).*
- *And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: **for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe** (Rev 14:15).*

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What Should You Do Immediately?

- **If you are angry or bitter at any, the sun is nearly down!**
- **You will give account of how you loved your spouse today!**
- **What can you do to honor parents? ... or train children?**
- **Are your sins confessed? ... or will you wait for tomorrow?**
- **Have you sought the LORD today? ... or is that for later?**

For Further Consideration

- **Redeeming the Time ...** <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/redeeming-the-time.pdf>
- **Living Life One Day at a Time ...** <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/living-one-day-at-a-time.pdf>
- **Living without Carefulness ...** <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/living-without-carefulness.pdf>

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