

# Past, Present, Future

Managing Three Time Zones for  
Successful Living for Jesus Christ

**John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;**

**Revelation 1:4**

**Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to  
day, and for ever.**

**Hebrews 13:8**

## **Our God Is Perfect**

Time does not affect or  
alter God like it does us;  
He inhabits eternity in any  
direction, in every zone.

Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

II Corinthians 1:10

## Paul Had Experience

He knew God  
had helped him,  
was helping him,  
and would help him.

**15 See then that ye walk circumspectly,  
not as fools, but as wise,**

**16 Redeeming the time, because the  
days are evil.**

**17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but  
understanding what the will of the Lord  
is.**

**Ephesians 5:15-17**

## **Life Is Short**

Time is your most valuable asset, and it is constantly disappearing.



## Redeem Time

Buy it back by trading  
foolish uses of time for  
wise uses of time.

## **Time Wasted**

If you mismanage time,  
you lose it forever.

# Time Zones

Past, present, future  
are your time zones.

## Time Errors

If you mismanage  
your time zones,  
you shorten your life.

## HOW?

You reduce both the utility  
and the amount of time  
in your future at an  
increasing rate.

## Time Errors

If you mismanage  
your time zones,  
you make life harder  
than God intended it.



**Time Zones**

**Past  
Present  
Future**



Right now  
you are in the  
**PRESENT**





Let's look at  
your

**PAST**

## **Past Sins Are Forgiven**

If you have confessed  
and forsaken them  
in true repentance.

**If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**I John 1:9**

**All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.**

**Ezekiel 18:22**

For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

II Corinthians 7:11

## **Remember 'R' Factor**

God forgives past sins and expects you to run forward with a clear conscience.

<http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/repentance-factor.pdf>

# Forgiven ... and Blasting Forward!

David

Manasseh

Israel (HAG)

Peter

Mary

Paul

Zacchaeus

**Past Successes**  
**Are of Little Value**

Your life race is how you  
end life, and previous  
laps are run and done.



**13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,**

**14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

**Philippians 3:13-14**

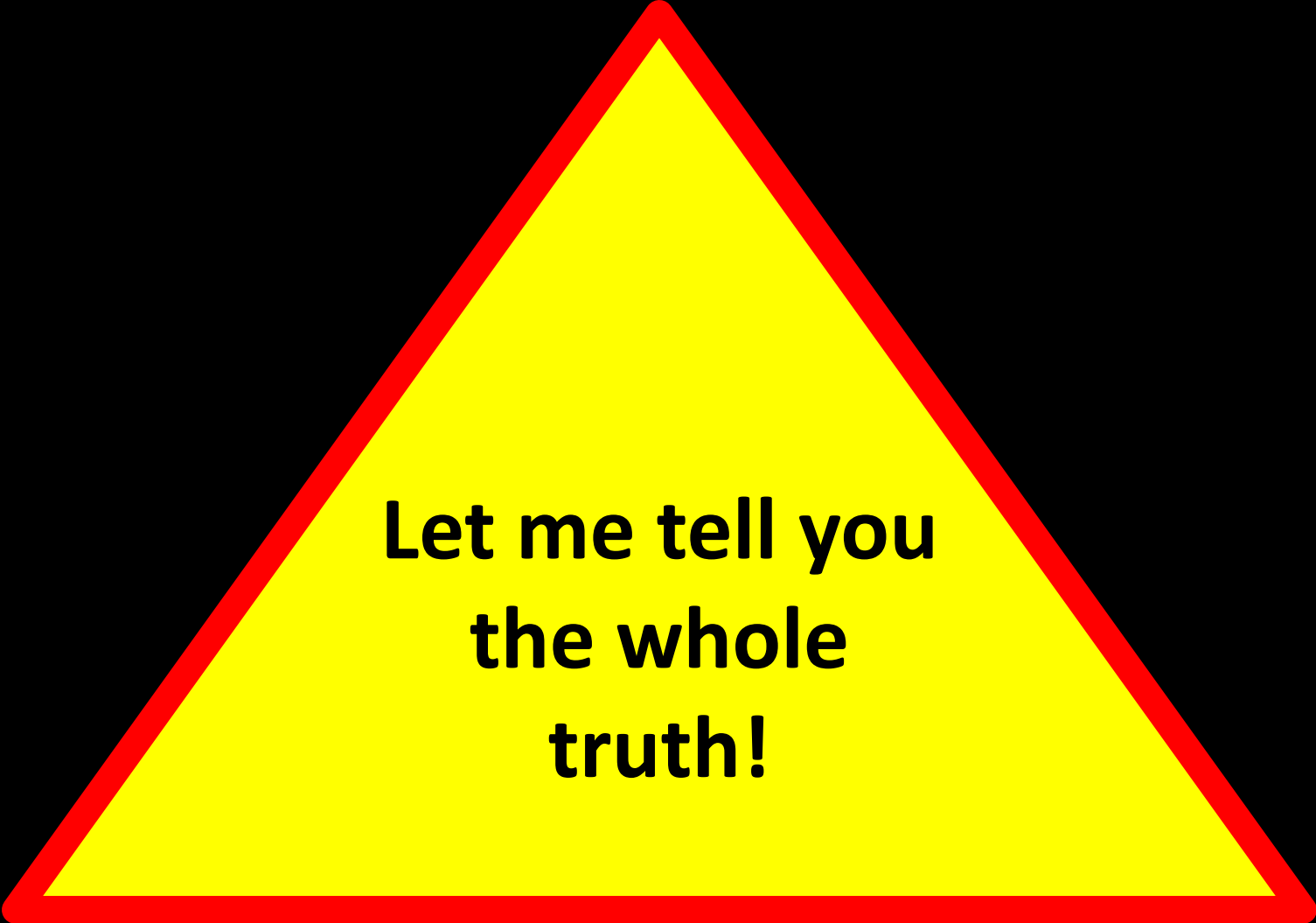
**Past Successes**  
**Are of Little Value**

Your life race is how you  
end life; the next lap is  
the one that counts!

***Jehu ruined his wonderful successes by not finishing well ... and was severely judged.***

***Solomon ruined his fabulous blessings by not finishing well ... and was judged.***

***Paul perfected the whole rule by forgetting the greatest apostolic successes ... for more!***




**Let me tell you  
the whole  
truth!**

**Think upon me, my God, for good,  
according to all that I have done for this  
people.**

**Nehemiah 5:19**

**Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.**

**Nehemiah 13:14**



**Nehemiah told God  
of his past efforts  
but did not relax his  
present efforts  
because of them!**

**Past Failures Do Not**  
**Prove Future Failures**

Try ... Try ... Try Again



**Past Failures Do Not**  
**Prove Future Failures**

God Blesses Trying

**Past Failures Do Not**  
**Prove Future Failures**

Try ... Try ... Try Again

**And Phinehas ... saying, Shall I yet again  
go out to battle against the children of  
Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease?  
And the LORD said, Go up; for to  
morrow I will deliver them into thine  
hand.**

**Judges 20:28**

## **The Past Is Not Better!**

Examine yourself as to why  
no progress by you rather  
than question God that  
your life is worse.

**Say not thou, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this.**

**Ecclesiastes 7:10**

## **Rise Above the Past!**

Do now what you have  
learned since the past  
to make the present  
better than ever.

# Rules about the PAST

- Past sins are forgiven and forgotten ... *run forward!*
- Past successes are of little value ... *finish stronger!*
- Past successes work in prayer ... *but never to relax.*
- Past failures do not prove failure ... *try, try again.*
- Forget the past! ... *Make the future better! ... Now!*



Let's look at  
your

**FUTURE**



## **Your Future Is Blessed**

If you will live by the rules  
of truth and wisdom  
written in the Bible.

**For the LORD God is a sun and shield:  
the LORD will give grace and glory: no  
good thing will he withhold from them  
that walk uprightly.**

**Psalm 84:11**

**Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he  
shall give thee the desires of thine  
heart.**

**Psalm 37:4**

**Moreover by them is thy servant  
warned: and in keeping of them there is  
great reward.**

**Psalm 19:11**

**But seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and his righteousness; and all these  
things shall be added unto you.**

**Matthew 6:33**

## **Your Needs Are Known**

God takes care of lilies and ravens, and He knows all your needs before you do.

**(For after all these things do the  
Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father  
knoweth that ye have need of all these  
things.**

**Matthew 6:32**

**29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.**

**30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.**

**31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.**

**Matthew 10:29-32**



## **Worry Is Destructive Sin**

God is your Father!  
He wants you to enjoy  
the carefree life ... now!

Take therefore no thought for the  
morrow: for the morrow shall take  
thought for the things of itself.  
Sufficient unto the day is the evil  
thereof.

Matthew 6:34

**6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

**7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.**

**Psalm 127:1-2**

## **God Can Restore Time**

If you live a godly life, by loving and obeying Him, He can make up losses of your past follies.

**25** And I will restore to you the years  
that the locust hath eaten ...

**26** And ye shall eat in plenty, and be  
satisfied, and praise the name of the  
**LORD** your God, that hath dealt  
wondrously with you: and my people  
shall never be ashamed.

Joel 2:25-27

**And I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph, and I will bring them again to place them; for I have mercy upon them: and they shall be as though I had not cast them off: for I am the LORD their God, and will hear them.**

**Zechariah 10:6**

## **No Problem Too Great**

God's protection over  
those that love Him  
easily exceeds any  
enemy or problem.



**Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.**

**Psalm 27:3**

**2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;**

**3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.**

**Psalm 46:2-3**

# **You Can Ruin the Future**

Never sacrifice the future  
on the altar of the present.

## **You Can Ruin the Future**

An example is to marry for any other reason but the fear of the LORD.

**But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.**

**Numbers 32:23**

**Good understanding giveth favour:  
but the way of transgressors is hard.**

**Proverbs 13:15**

## **Submit to God's Will**

Do not presume on any of  
your plans ... or even being  
alive tomorrow!

**For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will,  
we shall live, and do this, or that.**

**James 4:15**



# Who Holds the Future?

Does He hold your hand?

**Is God less in control of  
your future than at birth?**

**No!**

**Why worry now?**

## What Is Your Future?

Your future is the  
cumulative total of the  
days of your life ...  
for good or evil!

# Rules about the FUTURE

- Your future is blessed ... He will take care of you!
- Your future is known ... better than you know it!
- Worry is destructive sin ... so live carefree in faith.
- God can restore time ... so love and obey, not fret.
- No problem is too great! ... God is on your side!

# Good Examples Blessing the Future

Joseph

Moses

Caleb

David (Saul)

Asa

Josiah

Jesus

# Bad Examples Ruining Their Future

Lot

Esau

Achan

Samson

Saul

Gehazi

Hezekiah



Let's look at your

**PRESENT**

## **Its All You've Got**

You cannot change the  
past, and you do not know  
the future.



## **Act on Conviction Now**

Conviction not obeyed  
today will likely not  
be felt tomorrow.

**Seek ye the LORD while he may be  
found, call ye upon him while he is  
near:**

**Isaiah 55:6**

**I made haste, and delayed not to keep  
thy commandments.**

**Psalm 119:60**

## **Today's Choices Count**

Never sacrifice the future  
on the altar of the present.

## **Today's Choices Count**

An example is to not  
forgive a person and have  
bitterness destroy you.

## **Good, Better, or Best**

Even good choices may not  
be the best choices,  
costing you precious time,  
so make better choices!

## **Time Runs Out**

If you are sinning, and know it, God will not be mocked or delay forever.

**He, that being often reprov'd  
hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be  
destroyed, and that without remedy.**

**Proverbs 29:1**




**And I gave her space to repent of her  
fornication; and she repented not.**

**Revelation 2:21**

## **Don't Let Life Happen**

Grab it one day at a time  
and manage it for good –  
starting with today!



**Let's apply the  
time zones to  
your life.**

## School / Transferable Skill

If you need schooling,  
there is only one key  
semester – this one!

## Family Planning

If you ignore the risk and work of more children, you lower your usefulness and raise your carefulness.

## Auto M&R

If you ignore oil changes and regular maintenance, its present value and the future costs will hurt you.

## **Your Reputation**

It is basically what you are doing right now. God and good men forgive the past and ignore the future.

## Your Reputation

Forget what you did or  
were; forget what you  
want to be; what are you  
right now, today?



## Youth Can Wait?

Guess again! Your choices right now are forming your future, and God says to remember Him now!

**Remember now thy Creator in the days  
of thy youth, while the evil days come  
not, nor the years draw nigh, when  
thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in  
them;**

**Ecclesiastes 12:1**

## **Things Will Get Better?**

On what basis? Only zeal  
for God improves a life.  
You can have a feast today  
and all day tomorrow!

**All the days of the afflicted are evil: but  
he that is of a merry heart hath a  
continual feast.**

**Proverbs 15:15**

## **Foresee the Evil**

Look ahead to see changes  
you should make to avoid  
being punished in the  
future by trouble.

**A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and  
hideth himself: but the simple pass on,  
and are punished.**

**Proverbs 22:3**

## Pleasure in Sin?

You lie to yourself.  
Pleasure is little and brief.  
Punishment will be great.  
God's great reward is lost.

**24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;**

**25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;**

Hebrews 11:24-25



**1 The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes.**

**2 For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.**

**Psalm 36:1-2**

## **Change in Time Zones**

Your future becomes your  
past ... and lost and ruined  
... by present compromise.

**Procrastination is**  
**Presumption**

You assume that you can  
do tomorrow what you  
should do today.

Wrong!

**Procrastination is**  
**Presumption**

You do not know what  
tomorrow may bring;  
you form bad habits;  
you lose opportunities;  
you add stress; etc.

## Leverage Time Instead

The sooner you do a thing,  
the more you get done,  
the more time you have,  
without stress and worry.

Wow!

## Presumption is Profane

What counts is now!  
We should not say  
we will do better ...  
let us do better,  
today!

# Marriage

The past is worthless  
except for bitterness.

The future is unknown.

Now is the time for love!

## **Be Terrified**

Present sin will bring  
judgment in your future ...  
and will soon be the past  
that you cannot alter.



## Its Too Late!

This is the cry of a man  
that played in the past  
and now regrets his very  
painful present and future.

**11 And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed,**

**12 And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;**

**13 And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that instructed me!**

**Proverbs 5:11-13**

## **Potential Lost**

Most men never come  
close to their potential ...  
by foolishly mismanaging  
the present that becomes  
their limited future!

## **A Better Choice**

Temperance sacrifices the  
present for the future!

**O that they were wise, that they  
understood this, that they would  
consider their latter end!**

**Deuteronomy 32:29**

# Examine All Choices

Be tough!  
What will this choice  
cost me later?

## Remember Time Zones

God has given us rules  
for each time zone ...  
and doing things your way  
will surely ruin your life.

# Life Choices Affected by Time Zones

Spirituality

Church

Reputation

Wisdom

Birth Control

Bitterness

Virginity

Marriage

Friends

Television

Debt

Savings

Giving

Auto M&R

Driving

School

Exercise

Weight



## **Life Is Short**

Time is your most valuable asset, and it is constantly disappearing.

## Redeem Time

Buy it back by trading  
foolish uses of time for  
wise uses of time.

## **Time Wasted**

If you mismanage time,  
you lose it forever.

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## HOW?

You reduce both the utility  
and the amount of time  
in your future at an  
increasing rate.

## Time Errors

If you mismanage  
your time zones,  
you make life harder  
than God intended it.

## How It All Works

God can forgive your past  
... and you can change your  
present ... which will bring  
a rosy future, guaranteed.



If you do not do things  
God's way ... He can ruin  
your present and future ...  
which will soon be your  
past and all will be lost  
on Judgment Day!

## Younger Folk (0-25)

Use time wisely with the rules in this study ... to be greater and happier than the elders in this church.

## **Middle Folk (25-50)**

Use the prime of life to ignore the past and future to apply great leverage for greatness before God.

## **Older Folk (50-100)**

Use your experience and wisdom of age to fervently burn yourself out for Jesus Christ and His kingdom.

# **For a Good Follow-up**

## *Sacrificing the Future*

<http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/sacrificing-your-future.pdf>

# For Further Study

- **Sacrificing Your Future** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/sacrificing-your-future.pdf>
- **Living One Day at a Time** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/living-one-day-at-a-time.pdf>
- **The 'R' Factor of Repentance** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/repentance-factor.pdf>
- **Choices** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/choices.pdf>
- **Three Assumptions of Faith** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/three-choices-of-faith.pdf>.
- **Boast Not of Tomorrow** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/boast-not-thyself.pdf>
- **Priorities** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/priorities2.pdf>
- **Playing with Sin** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/playing-with-sin.pdf>.
- **Reversal of Fortune** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/reversal-of-fortune.pdf>.
- **Glory Days Ahead** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/glory-days-ahead.pdf>
- **Your Sin Will Find You Out** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/be-sure-your-sin4.pdf>
- **Remember Now Thy Creator** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/what-happens-at-30.pdf>.
- **Redeeming the Time** ... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/redeeming-the-time.pdf>

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