

Being Good Stewards of our Time

Ephesians 5:15-16

"Time is the fire in which we burn."

—Delmore Schwartz, *"Calmly We Walk Through This April's Day"*

James 4:14 NASB95 - "...You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away."

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3-8 NASB95 - 1 There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven ... 3 A time to kill and a time to heal; A time to tear down and a time to build up. 4 A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance. 5 A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones; A time to embrace and a time to shun embracing. 6 A time to search and a time to give up as lost; A time to keep and a time to throw away. 7 A time to tear apart and a time to sew together; A time to be silent and a time to speak. 8 A time to love and a time to hate; A time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:2 NASB95 - 2 A time to give birth and a time to die; A time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted.

Whether We Are in the Beginning, Middle, or Toward the End, It's Never Too Late To Begin To Prioritize our Time More Purposefully in Regard to our Lord.

Context- A General Outline of Ephesians:

- Paul wrote to a church in Ephesus, in Asia Minor, as an encouragement and admonition.
- First 3 chapters: An understanding of who they are
- Last 3 chapters: Instruction on how they should behave in light of who they are.

Chapter 1 - Who they are

Chapter 2 - Who they once were

Ephesians 2:1-3

Ephesians 2:4-10

Chapter 4-5 - Their conduct (walk)

Examples of "Walk" Used in Scripture:

- *1 John 2:6 – the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked*
- *Galatians 5:16- but I say, walk by the spirit and you will not carry out the deeds of the flesh*
- *Romans 6:4 – Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

Paul's Use of "Walk" in Ephesians 4-5

Ephesians 4:1 – Therefore, I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling for which you have been called.

Ephesians 4:17 – So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer also as the gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind.

Ephesians 5:1-2 – therefore be imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave himself up for us..

Ephesians 5:8 – Therefore, you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the lord, walk as children of light.

Ephesians 5:15 – therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but wise...

3 Ways We Can Be Good Stewards of our Time:

1.) Carefully.

2.) Walk in Wisdom.

Ephesians 5:6-13

3.) Have a Sense of Urgency

1 Peter 1:17-19

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

4.) Redeem It!