

Stewarding Our Time

I. A Distinctive in Our Walk

II. A Distinctively "Christian" Walk

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. – Ephesians 5:15-16

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. – Ephesians 5:8-10

III. Stewarding Our Time By "Walking"

1. Look Carefully *How* You Walk

2. Walk in Wisdom

"...walk as wise, not as unwise." - Ephesians 5:15

3. Walk Like Time is Precious

"...making the best use of the time." – Ephesians 5:16

"No doubt some Christians need to be shaken out of their lethargy and to get busy for the kingdom. But many Christians are too busy already. I can take "redeem the time" (see Eph. 5: 16, KJV) as a summons to better time management when in reality it's a call to be holy more than a call to possess the seven habits of highly effective people. I can turn every "is" into an "ought." I can forget that my circle of influence will inevitably be smaller than my circle of concern.

Above all, I can lose sight of the good news that the universe is not upheld by the word of my power (see Heb. 1: 3). That's Christ's work, and no one else can do it. Hallelujah—he doesn't even expect me to try."¹

"...there is nothing harmless about an age that seems to regard leisure as an antidote for work, entertainment as an antidote for boredom. Rather than purchasing treasure we weaken our spiritual immune system as we breathe in the pollutants that ultimately destroy time's value."²

IV. Sometimes We Trip, Stumble, Go the Wrong Way, Fall Down

"...the days are evil." – Ephesians 5:16

¹ Kevin DeYoung, Crazy Busy

² Sinclair Ferguson, Lets Study Ephesians

For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. – Romans. 7:15-23