

Redeem the Time

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Scripture reading: Ephesians 5:16

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Over the years the Lord, from time to time, drops little nuggets into my heart, which are always of great blessing as I press on in Him. Many times they throw greater light on a subject, and sometimes are just words of encouragement.

We are aware that the word of God has dimensions: Ephesians 3:18 speaks of the *"breadth and length, and depth, and height."*

The Lord spoke to my heart on "redeeming the time" found in Ephesians 5:16, not at all in the same sense I once understood it, but from the standpoint of reclaiming that which we have lost through decadence of the age – "because the days are evil."

God is calling a people who will not conform to the decay of the age and the falling away from righteousness, but will take another look at the PLUMBLINE and fall in line with Him instead of with the world style.

There is a current of passivity, laxity and sheer ennui sweeping through the halls of Christianity in this hour, which will engulf all those whose eyes are not fixed on the righteousness which Jesus established in HIS CHURCH.

"The kingdom of God is... RIGHTEOUSNESS, and PEACE, AND JOY in the Holy Ghost." Romans 14:17.

The world has invaded Christendom, thus the striking evidence of spiritual pollution: deceived with empty words.

May God help us to redeem the time, restoring true holiness and righteousness in our whole life. Notwithstanding the fact that there is a price to pay, God has given us grace in abundance.

The exhortation of the whole chapter is that we be imitators of Christ as beloved children: walk in love as Christ loved us, turn from immorality, impurity, etc. "No... man... who is an idolater hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." Ephesians 5:5.

Let us walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all those who are good and right and true. Light makes everything visible. Praise God!

In every age, God has raised up those who will hear and obey Him, thus redeeming their time. There was Noah in his time, Enoch in his, Elijah and Elisha, John the Baptist, and then Jesus came. He paid the supreme price - made such a restoration, bringing redemption - this second Adam. He had perfect command over the fish of the sea, trees of the field, sickness and diseases, and established a generation - the 42nd generation (Matthew 1:17) - making us sons of God, begotten by Jesus Christ, bringing man into union with Himself and the Father. See John 14:23, 17:21, James 1:18.

Let us, therefore, look carefully how we walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, REDEEMING THE TIME. Be not caught in the evil of our day, but draw from the Spirit that nature of God, seeking to know the will of the Father. Then out of our hearts and lives will flow the richest blessings to others. "Thou canst not then be false to any man" (Shakespeare).

The greatest weapon Satan uses against God's people is division.

We praise God, that as we submit to the working of the Spirit with us, our corruptible nature is being changed from death to life. Finally we will emerge in His likeness, that when He appears we shall be like Him.

(Excerpt from *Nuggets for the Needy*, pg. 1-3)

Thought for today: In every age, God has raised up those who will hear and obey Him, thus redeeming their time.