

“TIME”

Often, I am told, “Time just passes so fast!” Every time I hear this statement I am reminded of something told me a long time ago: “There are sixty seconds in a minute, sixty minutes in an hour, twenty four hours in a day, three-hundred-sixty five days in a year, ten years makes a decade, etc.....” What this person was telling me is, time is **constant**, it was the same in the past and is the same now and will be the same in the future – until the end of the world. Time **does not speed up; neither, does it slow down**. So, this idea of time being slow; or, time being fast has no meaning in reality.

When I was young, I thought I would never get old, it seemed to be a long way off. I thought people who were 28 -30 years of age were old. As I became older that idea has changed. When I reached the age of twenty I thought people 40-50 were old and then when I reached the age of 50 I thought the people were old when they were 75 – 80. Recently I turned eighty years of age (now I am an Octogenarian) and feel those who are 87 – 90 are the old people. If I want to do something, I know I have to get up and get after it. Whatever I hope to accomplish, can be accomplished **if I get with it**. I cannot just sit and think and hope it will be done.

If I want to know more about the Bible I have to pick up the book, open its pages and **read**. Just as I learned when I was young; so, the same process will cause me to become more knowledgeable concerning the book. The command still applies, “*Study to show thyself approved unto God,*” II Tim. 2:15.

Should I desire to teach someone, it will not be done if I do not make an effort to seek out that person and sit down and **communicate to him the word of God**. Time is not a factor. Time still moves the same: neither faster nor slower, **it is the same**. I will take time to do what I desire to do.

I now look back on what I have accomplished in life and realize there are others doing the same thing. The debates I have been involved in, the classes I have been a part of, the meetings I have conducted in the years of my preaching, the people who have responded to the gospel of Christ in those meetings I have conducted, I feel to be a blessing. The hours I have spent with my family have not been worthless pastime. The hours I have spent with my fellow man, the hours of concern for my government, praying and hoping my grandchildren (and great grandchildren) **will have a peaceful place to live and worship**, is not wasted time.

I was told by an older preacher of the gospel, “*I have preached for fifty years and have paid my dues, Now I am going to retire and enjoy life!*” **I thought, at that time, he was expressing an impossibility**. Please tell me how a person can retire from living the Christian life? Can one get to the point in Life in which he can just say, “*I have done enough?*” As long as we have breath, life, and ability, we must continue to preach the gospel of Christ that others may hear and be saved, Rom. 10:17.

“*15 Look therefore carefully how ye walk not as unwise, but as wise; 16 redeeming the time because the days are evil,*” Eph. 5:15-16. Have you given thought as to what is happening, when one is “*redeeming the time?*” You cannot bundle up time. It is not like a cell phone in which you acquire minutes to be used later – one cannot do this with the time of life. **I must take advantage of time**. Don’t let it pass by, without accomplishing what needs to be accomplished. Jesus said the very hairs of a person’s head are numbered. I need to look about me and take advantage of **time, opportunities, circumstances** and the **people** I am with and make the best use of my time - for the Lord, and his cause. Matt. 10:38.

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Carl Adon Allen
1115 E. Houston Ave.
Crockett, Tx. 75835
(936) 544-3614
carladonallen@gmail.com