

My times are in your hands

Psalm 31:14-15

If you don't manage yourself, something else will and YOU may not accomplish what you really want to do.

One year
12 months
52 weeks
365 days
8760 hours
525600 minutes
31536000 sec

Time is gift of god
We have done nothing to deserve it, to earn it or purchase it
Like the air we breathe
Time come to us as part of life
The gift of time is not ours alone
But is given equally to each person
Rich, poor, educated, ignorant, strong, weak
Everyman, woman and child has the same 24 hours
everyday

Time cannot be stopped, slow down, turned off, adjusted
Time marches on
You can't bring it back
Once it is gone it is gone
Yesterday is lost forever
Tomorrow holds no guarantee
Time is one of our most precious possessions
We can waste it , worry over it
We can spend it on ourselves or

We can invest it in the kingdom of god

We can't control time but we can control what we do with our time.

A. The scripture indicates that you should manage yourself.

Eccles. 3:1.

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

1. We are to use time wisely.

Ephes. 5:15-16

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, [16] Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

2. The Christian is held accountable for the time, talent, and treasure God gives him.

Psalm 90:10,12 The length of our days is seventy years

B. The very nature of time makes it necessary that you manage yourself.

1. Time cannot be stopped.

2. Time cannot be stretched.

3. Time cannot be reproduced.

TWO CONCEPTS OF TIME:

Two Words Used for Time in Bible

1 - kronos - measured segments: quantity

2 - kairos - opportunities / seasons: quality

1 - Measured by segments (hours, minutes, seconds)

2 - measured by significant events (seasons, epics, eras)
like a period of time

Farmers measure by Plowing, Planting, & Harvesting
Families measure by birthdays & anniversaries & Special
Occasions

Ephesians 5.16: *Redeeming the time, because the days are
evil.*

*Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are
without, redeeming the time.*

“REDEEMING THE TIME” = “Be more efficient” /
“Work more quickly” / “Be better organized” Or, HAVE
BETTER PRIORITIES / USE YOUR TIME WISELY!

This is the “kairos” use of the word
“redeem the seasons or buy up the opportunities”

It is not necessarily to squeeze more activity into less time
but to use the time we have for God’s glory / Holy Living
Opportunity to Witness , Serve , Give .

Here in this psalm 31 David is going through some
difficulties in life and he is afraid
But he confidently says my time is in His hands... My
future is in god’s hands
What does that mean?

1. I am not trapped in the grip of blind forces..

- **Our god is the creator of everything and distinct from his creation...**
- **Our god is personally involved in our life.**
- **He is interested in the affairs of our life.**

2) I am being trained in the school of God's providence.

The Christian affirms the truth that God has not abandoned the world He created — that is deism. Nor has He become absorbed by His creation, which is pantheism.

Rather, the Christian believes God is distinct from what He has made, and He is working out everything in relationship to His creation according to His plan.

By the same power and divine energy in which He created this universe, He preserves all of His creatures. He operates in all that comes to pass in the world, and He directs everything to its appointed end to bring “...everything into conformity with the purpose of His will and to conform people to the image of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

As strange as it seems, the Sovereign Creator fashions everything in time and history to this eventuality: He will redeem for Himself a people who are His very own.

What does this mean for us? We are not trapped in the grip of a blind force or being tossed about by chance.

It means we are being trained in the school of God’s providence. It means that our times are in His hands.

3) Prosperity should not be the occasion of pride.

A proud or arrogant individual is someone who has never come to grips with providence. The person who delights in saying, "I did it my way," puffs out his chest congratulating himself and is on the wrong end of discovering the doctrine of God's providence.

The degree to which I boast of what I have achieved is an indication that I have not come to terms with the fact that *my times are in His hands*. It is an indication that I have not appreciated the words of **Deuteronomy 8,18** which clearly tells me that when I experience wealth, it is the Lord who gives us the ability to produce it, and in doing so He confirms his covenant with us.

When the doctrine of providence takes root within our hearts, we begin to say, "*My times are in your hands...*" and we recognize that prosperity is no occasion for pride.

4) Uncertainty should not be the occasion of panic.

What do you put your head on at night? Yes, a pillow, but what do you really put your head on at night? The only thing we can put our heads on in order to sleep is the providence of God.

Psalms 121.3 -4

I may be prepared to say, *My times are in your hands...*" but I am not always prepared to live in the light of that truth.

When trouble comes, the only place I can lay my head is on the knowledge that somehow in the mysterious purposes of Almighty God, my times are in His hands.

These evil times in which I live have not taken Him by surprise. These dark and dreadful days have not overwhelmed me because I know that He is still at the wheel.

5) Adversity must not become the occasion of self-pity.

Most of us have lived through cries of anguish and pools of tears. The fact is, though, that with the passage of time or the change in circumstances, we may be able to look back over our shoulders and begin to recognize that there is no trying or tragic circumstance that God has not sovereignly permitted.

He is sovereignly involved in the life cycle of the sparrow and, therefore, He is profoundly involved in the circumstances of those whom He has made the special objects of His love. As a result, we can be assured that even in the face of difficulty the fatherly providence of God has permitted these things, and He has done so for our good and His glory. He will sustain us and watch over us in the midst of them. One day, He will make clear to us what now we see through a glass dimly.

6) There is a responsibility to be faced.

Now, this little phrase in Psalm 31:15 does not relieve us of the need to accept personal responsibility for our lives. Although the Lord is ruling over all things according to His purpose, you and I are still responsible to Him for all that

we are and all that we do. Therefore, we must be sensible in our decision-making and righteous in our planning.

I often meet people whose reaction to the events of life is to sit down and wait for the Lord to act. That is not a good plan. On the other hand, some people are totally frantic in their endeavors. They are trying to take care of everything, as if somehow the destiny of the world depended upon them. Every so often, though, I will meet someone who has a fragrance about him or her, a busied restfulness, because they recognize that the providence of God does not remove them from the realm of responsibility.

7) There is a security to be found.

This is the great security in life: “my times are in your hands.” The humble believer fearlessly commits himself to God instead of living in the fearful expectation of what fate may bring, and instead of viewing the world as tumbleweeds blown in the winds of chance. Calvin says, *“His solace is to know that his heavenly Father so holds all things in His power, so rules by His authority and will, so governs by His wisdom that nothing can befall except He determine it.”*

That is not to say that we like everything that happens. It is to say, though, that we do not need to be concerned that we contracted some sickness we were not supposed to get. Here is the security— our Father has it under control.

We are not at the mercy of arbitrary impersonal forces. We are in the hands of our heavenly Father. He is the one who says to us at this moment, *“Come to me all of you who are weary and are heavy laden. Come to me with all your burdens and all your fears and all your panics and all your*

anxieties and all your heartaches and all your disappointments. I want you to come to me and take my yoke upon you. Live underneath my jurisdiction, live underneath my hand, because my yoke is easy and my burden is light and you will find rest for your souls.”

Is this not a message for us today? *“My times are in your hands.”* My Father knows best.

Conclusion

Some final guidelines:

Forget Yesterday

Philip. 3:13-14

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.

Make Him Lord over Today

Matthew 6:33

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

Trust Him with Tomorrow

Ps. 46.1 “Be still. . .” Be patient in waiting on the Lord.

“One day at a time...”

“I don’t know what tomorrow holds, but I know Who holds tomorrow, and I know Who holds my hand!”

EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY

Lam 3:22-23

*22 It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed,
because his compassions fail not.*

23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed

They are new every morning - Day and night proclaim
the mercy and compassion of God.

Mal 3:6

*6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of
Jacob are not consumed.*

Ps 16:5

*5 The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my
cup: thou maintainest my lot.*

Ps 119:57

Thou art my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would
keep thy words. Therefore will I hope in Him. To have God
for our portion is the one only foundation of hope.

Lam 3:24

*24 The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I
hope in him.*

EVERY DAY IS A NEW DAY