

The Godly Man as Christ's Representative

Goals, Priorities and the Use of Time

Today it seems that very few people feel they have enough time. There are some basic facts we need to know:

- We all have the same amount of time.
- We have all the time we need.
- When we are pressured by time, it means either:
 - a. We are doing the wrong things.
 - b. We are doing the right things in the wrong way.



1. What do you learn about time and its use from Psalm 90:9-12?

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2. Define time:

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3. Hebrews 1:2 (Amplified), “(But) in the last of these days He has spoken to us in (the person of a) Son, Whom He appointed Heir and lawful Owner of all things, also by and through Whom He created the worlds and the reaches of space and the ages of time - (that is), He made, produced, built, operated and arranged them in order.”

Where did time come from?



4. Whose time is it anyway? I Corinthians 6:19, 20

Check One: Christ's (...) Ours (...) Everybody's (...)

5. According to I Corinthians 4:2, we are of our time also.

6. Explain what stewardship of time means.

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7. What do the following verses teach us regarding time from our point of view?

Psalm 39:4

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James 4:14

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Psalm 90:9

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8. Psalm 90:10 says our normal life span should be 70 years. How many days do you now have left?

What percentage of your life is already passed?

In your imagination, project your life to its end. Now look back and decide what you would have wanted your life to have meant? This will assist you in setting priorities and goals.



9. Below are listed some areas of priorities with two scriptures for each of them. First match the scriptures with the areas. Then number the areas in the order of their importance as you think God sees them.

<i>Priority</i>	<i>Areas</i>	<i>(2 each)</i>
()	Wife	() ()
()	Home	() ()
()	Personal walk with Christ	() ()
()	Ministry & Outreach	() ()
()	Recreation	() ()
()	Children	() ()
()	Work	() ()
()	Outside activities	() ()

Verses

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Proverbs 22:6 | 9. Mark 6:31 |
| 2. Matthew 22:37-38 | 10. I Timothy 6:17 |
| 3. I Timothy 5:8 | 11. Matthew 28:18-20 |
| 4. I Corinthians 1:9 | 12. Proverbs 29:25 |
| 5. Colossians 3:23 | 13. Galatians 1:10 |
| 6. II Thessalonians 3:11-12 | 14. Ecclesiastes 3:4 |
| 7. Genesis 2:24 | 15. Ephesians 5:25 |
| 8. II Corinthians 5:19-20 | 16. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 |

10. If you feel your life style is not agreeing with priorities as God views them, what will you do specifically in one area this week to help re-align your life style to fit God's priorities?

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Strong People Have Goals, Weak People Only Have Wishes.

11. Search the following verses and select a basic prerequisite for goal setting from each one. Write out the principle as you discover it from each verse.

Proverbs 16:9 (Living) "We should make plans - counting on God to direct us."

Principle Discovered:

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Proverbs 23:23 (Living) "Get the facts at any price, and hold on tightly to all the good sense you can get." Principle Discovered:

Acts 6:10 (Williams) "But they could not cope with his good practical sense and the spiritual power with which he usually spoke." Principle Discovered:




12. Place the following verses (written out below) under their proper headings in goal preparation.

I Kings 3:23 (Living) "Then the king said, let's get the facts straight: both of you claim the living child, and each says that the dead child belongs to the other."

Proverbs 22:3 (Living), "A prudent man foresees the difficulties ahead and prepares for them; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers consequences."

Proverbs 11:14 (New English Bible) "For want of skillful strategy an army is lost. Victory is the fruit of long planning."

I Kings 18:21 (Living), "Then Elijah talked to them. 'How long are you going to waver between two opinions?' he asked the people. If the Lord is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!"

<i>Headings</i>	<i>Verses</i>
	Plan ahead
	Get the facts
	Use your head
	Make a decision

Summary

1. Plan your time - if you don't, others will.
2. Leave a margin - for the unexpected.
3. Do one thing at a time and finish it.
4. Learn to say "NO." Giving an unqualified no answer is a mark of Christian maturity.
5. Separate the important from the urgent.
6. Use short cuts and helps which promote efficiency.
7. Be decisive. Do not be paralyzed by indecision.
8. Write it down. The poorest pencil has a better memory than the sharpest mind.
9. Be time conscious.

Assignment

Write out some of your current goals in the following areas and be prepared to share them:

1. Personal (spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, and social)

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2. Family (wife, children and parents)

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3. Vocation (job advancement, new work, economic goals, etc.)

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4. Ministry (church, outreach, Bible study)

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5. Recreational (sports, vacations, etc.)

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6. Public Relations (community involvement, school participation, etc.)

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Suggestions For Further Study

Tape 1273AB - Priorities and Use of Time, Gene Warr

Tyranny of the Urgent - Intersivarsity Press