

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME (PT 1)

“With Him one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day”

1 Timothy 1:17

“We associate rather than interrelate, hold ourselves back rather than open ourselves up, pass on or steal by one another rather than pause and linger awhile. The number of our close friends drops and the quality of our married life diminishes”.

Robert Banks

BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF TIME

3 Hebrew words

- *Ayt* – the instant or duration of time during which something occurs (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).
- *Olam* – to immeasurable time, whether past (Ecclesiastes 1:10) or future (Micah 4:7).
- *Mo'ed* – ‘fixed or appointed time,’ -time designated for a specific occurrence like a festival (Leviticus 23:2, 4).

Human beings are allotted their appointed span of time; the Lord gives and He takes away (Job 1:21).

Ultimately, God controls human destiny (Psalms 31:15; 139:16).

PRINCIPLES ON TIME STEWARDSHIP

Old Testament

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Psalms 90:12

What does “numbering our days” mean?

1. Evaluating the use and stewardship of our time

4 reasons why people are too busy (Hampton Keathley)

- (1) because of their egos.
- (2) as a cover up for laziness.
- (3) because of greed.
- (4) because they are more concerned about pleasing people rather than God.

See Acts 6:1-7

2. Evaluating the quality of our time spent.

Psalm 39

“Show me, LORD, my life’s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.

Psalm 39:4-5

What was David asking when he prayed, “Show me, LORD, my life’s end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is”?

He was asking, “Lord, help me to not put all my eggs in such a fragile basket, one that is so fleeting and passing away.”

“But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.” (Vs. 7)

God alone was his source of confident expectation.

Being good stewards of time does not mean we cannot enjoy the many good things God gives us in this life!

“God richly provides us with all things for our enjoyment.”

1 Timothy 6:17

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