

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:16 KJV

Ben Franklin said, "A penny saved is a penny earned," and indeed, it is! It is an oxymoron to think that you can "save" by spending; buy, "now," pay, "later!" Aren't buy and pay the same thing? Truthfully you "borrow," now and "buy" later. We are often tempted to part with hard earned money with the insidious advertising scheme of, "On Sale," yet we buy into this devilish philosophy each time we buy something, "On Sale!" The truth of the matter is that it is all "On Sale," because it is all "For Sale!" Slick merchandisers dupe us into thinking that "On Sale" means "discount," when in reality it may cost you more. I used to be in retail sales, and we could build a giant display of something, put "31 cents each" on a sign, and sell a few. If we put "3 for \$1" on the sign, we couldn't keep it stocked at the higher price! Amazing isn't it? Words fool you into buying to be thrifty, but if you spent a dollar, you lost a dollar! Try to sell what you just bought, and you'll quickly learn its worth. If you can't you sell it for at least what you paid, it's not a bargain, and you were "had." Time is not redeemed unless we put it in Heaven's "bank" by obeying the Word of God through faith. We're told to "*meditate day and night; pray without ceasing; quench not the Spirit; praise the Lord at all times; think on-good-honest-virtuous-things, be ye kind one to another; do good to them that spitefully use you; keep My commandments; love one another;*" and etc. I think you get the picture. God has given sufficient instruction to fill our days with blessedness and peace, yet we rebel against it. The reason for disobedience is always, "I'll do what I want to do." Don't let "good" things keep you from the God's "best" things. Reading a book on prayer is good, but praying is better!



If, from the Word we deign to abstain,
It's time that we shall never regain,
The Truth, if obeyed, whatever the cost,
Is time we spend that will never be lost. ~CGP

I can't do or think right, yesterday, for it is gone, forever! I can' do or think right, tomorrow, or even an hour from "now," for it as not yet arrived. I can only do or think anything, now. "Now," is the only element of time we truly possess. Redeeming is to buy back something once possessed. So, how do I redeem yesterday? We can only "redeem" time by obeying God's Word. If you spend your time in sin's impulses and lusts, it is gone, forever. There's already too much evil in the world for us to be spending our time on things that purport to be a bargain. Self-help scenarios are a gimmick of Satan to dupe fools into thinking they can save themselves from the sin that is inherently our nature unless we are made a "*new Creature*" in Christ. Leopards can't change their spots and men are born sinners. Unless they are transformed into saints by grace through faith, they remain forever doomed sinners! Time is given equally to all, twenty four hours each day. Only the wise redeem it. Faith is the currency of God, for without it, you can never please Him! "*That your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.*" How's your "Heavenly Bank account" doing?

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our Salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the Day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the Armour of Light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof." Romans 13:11-14 KJV