

## Redeeming the Time

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*Ephesians 5:15-16 (NKJV)*

<sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

*Ephesians 5:15-16 (AMP)*

<sup>15</sup> Therefore see that you walk carefully [living life with honor, purpose, and courage; shunning those who tolerate and enable evil], not as the unwise, but as wise [sensible, intelligent, discerning people], <sup>16</sup> making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil.

At the beginning of the year, we believe we received the word of the Lord and visionary theme for 2020: THE YEAR OF REDEMPTION. God has not changed His mind, and we still believe that He is willing and able to bring His promised REDEMPTION.

### How do we “redeem the time”?

To **Redeem** something means to buy it back, to regain possession of it.

The word “redeeming” in this passage is the Greek word *exagoridzo*. The word *agoridzo* is the Greek word for a marketplace that is filled with products and opportunities to spend way too much time and money shopping. (Just like today.) The word *ex* means “out,” and it’s where we get the word *exit*. When *ex* is added to *agoridzo*, it indicates an efficiency of doing what you need to do and then leaving without wasting resources.

The word “time” is *kairos*. It denotes a season or opportunity, and in this passage, the brevity of time we have available. The word used for evil indicates that the season is full of hurt and disease. (Wow! We can certainly see how that applies.)

Time is a gift from God and one of our most precious resources. With His wisdom, every moment can be seized for the opportunity it is. Even in the most challenging and uncertain circumstances, we can make the most of what He has given us for His glory.

## **Pray**

- Ask God to give you wisdom and the grace to live wisely.
- Invite Him to lead you toward endeavors with eternal significance.
- Agree and believe that you will hear His voice and be aware of spiritual nudges to honor the Lord, serve others, and utilize your time in productive ways.

## **Application**

- What can I accomplish with the time gained from travel and event cancellations?
- What does this opportunity make possible?
- How can I be a part of what God is doing to overcome evil with good in this season?