

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35
Union Valley, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

May 24, 2015 ~ Time Got Away From Me

Psalm 90:12 Teach us to number our days, aright (correctly) that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Moses said, we're too small to create our own purpose, so live as if your days are numbered. (*Anytime we have too much of something, we tend to waste it.*)

Job 14:5 A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.

If you were God who knows the number of your days, and He loves you, what would He say to us about how we use our time?

Ephesians 5:15-17 ¹⁵***Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise***

In light of the fact that consistent investments of time make all the difference, and neglect of time builds up, and random things have no value, be very careful.

¹⁶***making the most of every opportunity,***

Most versions say “redeeming the time” – make you trade your time for something of equal or greater value.

because the days are evil.

If you just do what comes natural you will not make it in this life... “days are evil” means that we neglect what is important - this is naturally going to be neglected unless we are “careful” in how we spend our time. It's why we say, “I know I ought to” but we don't. We live in a generation where it is natural to neglect the important things in life.

¹⁷***Therefore, do not be foolish***

(The Old and New Testaments teaches when you know you ought to do something and don't, you are a fool.

but understand (fact up to) ***what the Lord's will is.*** (God has a will for you, a plan for you) Your time on this earth is important but not if you only live it for you. Your time plus God's plan for your life is the perfect combination. Your time on this earth is too short to live for your will, but God's will for you has the opportunity to effect eternity.

Providential Will of God...stuff you don't have to pray for.

These are things that God is going to do no matter what, just because He is God (Ex. ***Gal4:4-5*** – when God was ready, He sent Jesus into the world; ***Rev. 20:11-15*** says God is going to judge everyone on the earth for their deeds at

some point. We don't have to pray God please let me explain myself! **Genesis 12:1** God was going to call a people his own.

Fact:

All through history, God has used human beings to accomplish His providential will. Ex. God coming in the world as a baby...(but he used Mary to accomplish it). Ex. God choosing a people for his own...he used Abraham to start that.

Another way to say it...God is up to something on the earth and the more familiar we are with what he is doing and plans to do, the easier it is to know what he wants us to do.

Matthew 25:19 Therefore go (as you are going about your life) **and make disciples** (fully devoted followers of Jesus) **of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

Moral Will of God. All the commands God has given us to do. The "thou shall and shall nots" ... You don't have to ever pray if you should lie or not.

1 Thes. 4:3 It is the will of God that you be sanctified, (morally pure) avoid immorality

1 Peter 2:15 "obey the Government" obey the laws of the land.

Personal Will of God. *Always pray about this.*

Ex. Should I marry her/him? Should I buy this house, car, move, take a job...

The more familiar you are with the providential will of God and the more obedient to the moral will of God, the easier it is to know the personal will of God.

Problem with knowing God's will. It's not getting God to speak, it's us not being willing to follow through with what He's telling us.

IF God loved you enough to die for you, I think He loves you enough to talk to you.

We want God to make suggestions and we decide what to do, we consider the options.

God does not give directions for our consideration, but for our participation.

God will speak to you clearly when you are at the point in your life that you say, "God no matter what you say, I'm going to obey it, you're the only option I

have, I don't trust myself, I only trust you, before you tell me what to do God, I want you to know the answer is YES!

God has the amazing ability to know when people are ready to participate with Him or when they are just sitting back checking out their options.

God's will for you is the thing that came to mind while I was preaching.

Implication: anything that relates to your time is spiritual. Because your time is a gift from God, God has a plan for how you spend every second of your time. Your days are numbered.

Where do you need to begin or begin again to make consistent deposits of time? What came to mind during the sermon? Your answer to that question is your response understanding what God's will is for your life.

When you become a Christian, God's spirit lives in you and provides self-control...begin praying about the area of time you need more discipline in.

What are you willing to do about it?

Small amounts of time invested over a long period of time in the critical areas of life is God's will for your life.