



“Now is the time of God’s favour, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2)

At Falcon College, our theme for the term in Sunday chapel services is “Now is the time.” As I write, we have reached half term. It seems like only yesterday we were starting term. Last night I was listening to a mix of YouTube songs and *Time* by Pink Floyd came on which opens with the lines “Ticking away the moments that make up a dull day/You fritter and waste the hours in an off-hand way.” It is a ‘depressing’ song but so true for many people, if not of all of us, at least some of the time.

How do we use our time? Do we fritter it away or do we make the most of it? There never seems to be enough of it, but is that because we don’t use it to our best advantage?

Paul talks about it being the time of God’s favour. Do we feel that, as we rush around trying to fit things into each day? Jesus promised that he would give us life in all its fulness. Might that relate to how we prioritise our time? And one of the Ten Commandments ordains a day of rest. How can we reconcile all that we seem to have to do with taking 24 hours off? Again, it has to be about priorities. *“Seek first [God’s] kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well.”* (Matthew 6:33). Pray that each of us might make best use of the time God, in his perfect plan, has given us.

I AM

I was regretting the past
And fearing the future
Suddenly my Lord was speaking
"MY NAME IS I AM" He paused
I waited, He continued

"WHEN YOU LIVE IN THE PAST
WITH ITS MISTAKES AND REGRETS
IT IS HARD, I AM NOT THERE
MY NAME IS NOT I WAS

WHEN YOU LIVE IN THE FUTURE
WITH ITS PROBLEMS AND FEARS
IT IS HARD, I AM NOT THERE
MY NAME IS NOT *I WILL BE*
"WHEN YOU LIVE IN THIS MOMENT
IT IS HERE
MY NAME IS *I AM*

Hellen Melliccoat

PEACE SCRIPTURES

With the world in more than a bit of disarray, I think it may be appropriate to read over these verses. Claim them as promises for your life and pray them to become true in places where they are needed.

Romans 5:1

Therefore having been justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 14:27

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you: my peace I give you, I do not give to as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Philippians 4:6,7

Don't be anxious for anything, but by prayer and supplication and with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. Then the peace of God which passes all human understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ.

Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of God rule your heart.

1 Corinthians 14:33

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace.

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you because he trusts you.

John 15:5

Without me you can do nothing.

1 Peter 5:7

Cast all your cares on him because he cares for you.

Wait

Desperately, helplessly, longingly I cried. Quietly, patiently loving God replied. I pled and I wept for a clue to my fate. And the Master so gently said,

“Child you must wait” “Wait? You say, wait!” my indignant reply.

“Lord, I need answers, I need to know why! Is Your hand shortened? Or have You not heard? By faith, I have asked, and am claiming Your Word.

My future and all to which I can relate hangs in the balance, and you tell me to WAIT? I’m needing a “yes” go ahead sign, or even a “no” to which I can resign. And Lord. You promised that if we believe, we need to but ask, and we shall receive. And Lord, I have been asking, and this is my cry. I’m weary of asking! I need a reply!”

Then quietly, softly, I learned of my fate. As my Master replied once again,

“You must wait” So, I slumped in my chair, defeated and taut., and grumbled to God, “So I I’m waiting....for what?”

He seemed then, to kneel, and his eyes wept with mine and He tenderly said, “I could give you a sign. I could shake the heavens and darken the sun. I could raise the dead and cause mountains to run. All you seek, I could give and pleased you would be. You would have what you want....but you wouldn’t know Me. You’d not know the depth of my love for each saint.

You’d not know the power I give to the faint. You’d would not learn to see through the clouds of despair. You would not learn to trust by knowing I’m there. You’d not know the joy of resting in Me when darkness and silence were all you could see. You’d never experience that fullness of love as the peace of My Spirit descends like a dove. You’d know what I give and I save....(for a start), but you’d not know the depth of the beat of My heart. The glow of my comfort late into the night; The faith that I give when you walk without a sigh; The depth that’s beyond just getting just what you asked of and infinite God, who makes what you have LAST. You’d never know, should your pain quickly flee, what it means that ‘My grace is sufficient for

thee'. Yes, your dreams for your loved ones overnight would come true. But, oh, the loss! If I lost what I'm doing in you! So be silent My child, and in time you will see that the greatest of gifts is to get to know Me. And though oft may My answer seem terribly late, My most precious answer of all is still, "WAIT."

Just enough time to do God's will

"All of us should . . . enjoy what we have worked for. It is God's gift."

Ecclesiastes 3:13 (GNT)

In a 21st century world where we're overworked, overstressed, and over-scheduled, this may be one of the most significant and freeing sentences you'll ever read: *You have just enough time to do God's will.*

That means if you don't feel you have enough time in your day, one of two things is true.

- 1) You're doing things God doesn't intend for you to do.
- 2) You're doing the things God intended the wrong way.

God wouldn't give you a list of things to do and not give you the time to do them. You're either trying to do too much or you're wasting time. There's really no other option.

Either way, you need to learn to enjoy the moment. The Bible says, *"All of us should . . . enjoy what we have worked for. It is God's gift"* (Ecclesiastes 3:13 GNT).

Too many of us fall victim to a terrible trap. I call it "when and then" thinking. We believe "when" we achieve a particular goal, we'll be happy. Maybe that goal is graduation, marriage, or a financial goal. But you won't be happy then. You'll enjoy reaching that goal for three seconds, and then you'll start asking yourself, "What's next?" The cycle simply repeats itself.

Are you worn out, burnt out, or stressed out? God wants more for you. If you're carrying an overwhelming load, it isn't from Jesus. He says, *"Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads, and I will give you rest . . . the load I give you to carry is light"* (Matthew 11:28, 30 NCV).

Every moment of your life is a gift from God. He doesn't want you to miss a single one because you're focused on what's next and not on what's he's put right in front of you. Don't wait for something to happen before you are happy with what you already have. God has given you everything you need for joy and contentment right now.

Rick Warren www.purposedriven.com

A thought

I have just seen this thought as someone's WhatsApp status. We could analyse it theologically, but ultimately, I think it is a word to us all, so I have included it. It is something within the power of all of us to do.

If you have the chance to make people happy, just do it. Sometimes people are struggling silently. Maybe, your act of kindness can make their day.

Redeeming the Time

Time is a precious gift from God—given freely, but never returned once spent. Each day, hour, and moment presents us with choices: to draw closer to God or drift further away. Scripture encourages us to “redeem the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). In a world filled with busyness, distractions, and endless demands, it is easy to waste time on things that do not nourish the soul.

As Christians, we are called to live intentionally. Time is not just about schedules and productivity; it is about purpose. Are we using our time to pray,

to serve others, to share the Gospel, and to grow in faith? Do we pause to rest in God's presence, or do we rush through our days without noticing His hand at work?

Jesus Himself valued time—He often withdrew to pray, taught when the opportunity arose, and never hurried, yet always fulfilled His mission. Following His example, we too must seek to live purposefully, not letting time slip away without meaning.

Let us ask God to teach us to number our days wisely (Psalm 90:12), that we may live each moment in faith, hope, and love—redeeming the time for His glory.

Knee Polishing

Having referenced peace, I think it is appropriate to pray for peace in the following parts of the world.

Sunday : Israel, Palestine, Iran

Monday : Sudan

Tuesday : Ukraine, Russia

Wednesday : DRC, Rwanda

Thursday : the Sahel region of West Africa

Friday : India, Pakistan, Kashmir

Saturday : pray for the United Nations and other such organisations with their peace-keeping efforts

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is

Hell?"

Come early and listen to our choir practice.

EDITORS : Richard Harrison

and Tony Bancroft

Falcon College, Esigodini

Tel : 09-881249/881268/881269

Email : rharrison@falconcollege.com