

**“What Time is It?” – Pt. 2
Romans 13:11**

Big Idea – It is time to get serious about things that matter most.

(Review point 1 from two weeks ago).

1. The time of salvation

2 Corinthians 6:2 “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

2. Time to “let go and let God” – believe and accept that God is in control

Illus. joke – Don’t be confused by the terminology, or you’ll be like the person who went forward to the altar years ago in a southern revival meeting’s invitation. On one side of him dear old saints were exhorting him, “Hang on and pray through Brother”, while on the other side they were shouting in his ear, “Let go and give it all to God!”

So what do I mean by my choice of words? Believe and accept that God is in charge! Notice this truth in the following verses.

Isaiah 40:28 “Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary.

29 He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

30 Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion.

31 But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.”

Isaiah 46:9 “Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me.

10 Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.”

Proverbs 3:5 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Psalms 55:22 “Give your worries to the LORD, and he will take care of you. He will never let good people down.”

1 Peter 5:7 “Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.”

3. Time to please God not people

You can please some people some of the time, but you can never please all the people. You can please God all of the time – when you please Him, you'll also please the people who are pleasing Him but that's a fringe benefit!

2 Corinthians 5:8 “We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Galatians 1:9 “I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.

10 Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.”

4. Time to draw near to God

James 4:6 “But God gives us even more grace, as the Scripture says, “God is against the proud, but he gives grace to the humble.”

7 So give yourselves completely to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run from you.

8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. You sinners, clean sin out of your lives. You who are trying to follow God and the world at the same time, make your thinking pure.”

Lamentations 3:25 “The LORD is good to those who hope in him, to those who seek him.”

Isaiah 55:6 “Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.”

How? – do like Jesus did

Luke 5:16 “...Jesus often slipped away to be alone so he could pray.”

5. Time to wake up

Romans 13:11 “Do this because we live in an important time. It is now time for you to wake up from your sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

12 The “night“ is almost finished, and the “day“ is almost here. So we should stop doing things that belong to darkness and take up the weapons used for fighting in the light.

13 Let us live in a right way, like people who belong to the day. We should not have wild parties or get drunk. There should be no sexual sins of any kind, no fighting or jealousy.

14 But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self.”

Ephesians 5:14 “...and everything that is made easy to see can become light. This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper! Rise from death, and Christ will shine on you.”

15 So be very careful how you live. Do not live like those who are not wise, but live wisely.

16 Use every chance you have for doing good, because these are evil times.

Mark 13:32 “However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows.

33 And since you don’t know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!

34 “The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. When he left home, he gave each of his servants instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return.

35 You, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know when the Lord will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak.

36 Don’t let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning.

37 I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him!”