

REDEEMING THE TIME

Bobby Dockery

Ephesians 5:16 urges "Make the most of your time, because the days are evil." As another year recedes into history, many opportunities and possibilities are passing away forever! We stand at the brink of a New Year-fresh and unused! Whatever the story of yesterday has been, this is a new chapter. The Bible has much to say about how we can use our time to make the most of the opportunities coming our way.

VALUE IT! In his letter to his son, Lord Chesterfield wrote: "Know the true value of time; snatch, seize, and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness, no laziness, no procrastination. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today." The Psalmist wrote, "Lord, let me know my end, and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is" (Psalm 39:4/RSV).

REDEEM IT! KJV translates Ephesians 5:16, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*" The idea is that Christians must seize every opportunity for doing God's business in the world. The Father enjoins, "...go work today in my vineyard..." (Matt. 21:28). Priorities must be set. We won't have time for everything! There are more things to do than we will ever have time for. We must decide what is important enough to spend our lives on.

INVEST IT! We must invest time in eternity. The only time which has eternal significance is that which is used in the Lord's service. In the use of our time-as in all else-we are God's stewards. All time really belongs to God; we are merely using it in His behalf. The only way to build anything permanent or lasting from time is to invest in in Christ's service.

DAILY BIBLE READING

JANUARY 2016

1. Matthew 1	Genesis 1-3	O
2. Matthew 2	Genesis 4-6	O
3. Matthew 3	Genesis 7-9	O
4. Matthew 4	Genesis 10-12	O
5. Matthew 5:1-26	Genesis 13-15	O
6. Matthew 5:27-48	Genesis 16-17	O
7. Matthew 6:1-18	Genesis 18-19	O
8. Matthew 6:19-34	Genesis 20-22	O
9. Matthew 7	Genesis 23-24	O
10. Matthew 8:1-17	Genesis 25-26	O
11. Matthew 8:18-34	Genesis 27-28	O
12. Matthew 9:1-17	Genesis 29-30	O
13. Matthew 9:18-38	Genesis 31-32	O
14. Matthew 10:1-20	Genesis 33-35	O
15. Matthew 10:21-42	Genesis 36-38	O
16. Matthew 11	Genesis 39-40	O
17. Matthew 12:1-23	Genesis 41-42	O

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

And POTLUCK LUNCH

18. Matthew 12:24-50	Genesis 43-45	O
19. Matthew 13:1-30	Genesis 46-48	O
20. Matthew 13:31-58	Genesis 49-50	O
21. Matthew 14:1-21	Exodus 1-3	O
22. Matthew 14:22-36	Exodus 4-6	O
23. Matthew 15:1-20	Exodus 7-8	O
24. Matthew 15:21-39	Exodus 9-11	O
25. Matthew 16	Exodus 12-13	O
26. Matthew 17	Exodus 14-15	O
27. Matthew 18:1-20	Exodus 16-18	O
28. Matthew 18:21-35	Exodus 19-20	O
29. Matthew 19	Exodus 21-22	O
30. Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 23-24	O
31. Matthew 20:17-34	Exodus 25-26	O

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Cochran	4th
Judy Liebl	7th
Erica Flores	8th
Edna Johnson	12th
Beverly Leatherman	14th
Lacy Lancaster	17th

The Lincoln Light

"I am the light of the world, he who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life" (John 8:12).

CHURCH of CHRIST - LINCOLN, MISSOURI

20747 Hwy. 65 South

Bulletin Editor and Pulpit Minister

Charles R. Rose

660-547-2567

Cell: 660-723-1315

E-mail: crrose@iland.net

Church Office 660-547-3523

Web page: www.lincolnmochurchofchrist.org

Send all correspondence to:

Church of Christ

P. O. Box 137

Lincoln, MO 65338

SERVICE TIMES SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:30 am, Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 pm

RADIO PROGRAM

KAYQ 97.1 FM Sunday 9:30 am

SUNDAY TV PROGRAMS, Channel 10, Springfield, MO

"In SEARCH of The Lord's Way" 7:00 am

"The Living Word" 7:30 am

"House to House, Heart to Heart" published and mailed by-monthly

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SUNDRY THOUGHTS FROM CHARLES

It is easy to say, "I have faith in God" when everything is going well. When all is well in our job, our family is enjoying good health, the weather is perfect with beautiful sunshine instead of a foot of snow to cope with. As far as we can see there are no hidden challenges to face. Life is good, therefore I can say, "I have faith in God!"

But the real test of faith in God doesn't come when all is well in our life. The real test comes when our dreams are shattered. When we lose one who is near and dear to us. When our health, or that of our loved ones is threatened. When that for which we have worked and dreamed of is taken away—then our faith in God is tested to the limit.

But if our faith in God is as it should be, then it is at those times when this life seems hopeless that we can sing the praises of God our Father, knowing full-well that this darkness shall turn to light. It is at these times that the promise of the Lord "*I will never leave you nor forsake you*" (Hebrews 13:5b) takes over to see us through the trials. His great love will see us through the darkness and bring the sunshine into our lives once again. As Brother L. O. Sanderson wrote in his beautiful hymn:

"If I walk in heaven's light,
Shun the wrong and do the right,
I know the Lord will make a way for me."

He will help us to overcome obstacles to our faith and make a way for us. "*If we walk in the light as He is in the light*" (1 John 1:7), we will have the fellowship of those of "*like precious faith*" (2 Peter 1:1) who will help us become even stronger, better Christians.

Whatever obstacles this life may cast before us, we can keep faith with our Lord and Savior—Jesus the Christ.

As I go about my daily routine it is not unusual for someone to address me as Pastor Rose," or "Reverend Rose." I know this stems from denominational dogmas which place such titles upon their preachers, and those who use them simply do not know what Jesus and his inspired writers taught. Look at these two titles from the Scriptures:

PASTOR: is reserved for a group of men who meet the qualifications set down in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-8 for church leaders who are also called elders, bishops, shepherds and presbyters. Never is there to be just one man so designated over the congregation by such titles (cf. Acts 14:23). Only when a plurality of men meet the prescribed qualifications set forth in the above Scriptures is this position filled. I have never been so appointed, therefore I am not a pastor; I am however a Christian. Nothing more or less.

REVEREND: This word is used only one time in the entire Bible in designation of an individual—and that individual is God Himself (Psalm 111:9) "*holy and reverend is His name.*" No man on earth is worthy enough to be called by this title. In Matthew 23:8-10 our Lord Jesus Christ condemned the use of man-made titles, but, He said we are all "*brethren.*" Therefore, since, as Jesus said, "*ye are all brethren,*" I much prefer to be called simply "brother Rose." (With a small b).

TO OUR VISITORS

We are so glad that you are with us today, and hope your visit will be such that you are blessed by it. We hope you will come again soon. Our service times are on the front of this bulletin. Please fill out a visitor's card and drop in in the collection plate.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Our military personnel, Dave Rushton, Bruce & Joy Rushton, Cathy Dalke, Donna Boney, Judy Brewster, Arthur James, Christy Harms' childhood friend, Edwin Atkins, Robert Schenewark, Chester Reynolds, Kelly Cook, Jane Maynard, Marcus Cemenik

Jason Schenewark Has been moved into rehab.

Samantha Crawford, Lois Rose's great niece has been moved out of ICU to a room and is off the ventilator. She can move her arms and they said they saw her move one foot a little. They are arranging to move her from Springfield to a rehab unit in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

THOSE OF THE LINCOLN CONGREGATION ARE:

Ethel Davis, Opal Massengale, , Jody Clymer, Jimmy and Darlene Coggins, Van & Mollie White, Danny Nothwehr, Bev Bucklinger, Edna Johnson, Carol Brewster, Doug Rose, Lois Emond,

Jim Leatherman needs have reconstructive surgery on his ankles to alleviate the pain. He does not have a date for this surgery at this time.

Van White will have surgery on his shoulder January 12th.

Jim Tadlock is having a problem with his left eye, possible pink-eye. He said he will also be having a lot of dental work done beginning in a couple weeks.

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING
Following evening services
TODAY

Our deepest sympathy to Edna Johnson at the passing of her niece in California this past week.

HOW CONFUSED ARE THE WISE?

The apostle Paul asked, "*Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ... But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than man, and the weakness of God is stronger than man*" (1 Corinthians 1:20, 24-25).

Ted Hook Knight (gospel preacher) asked on his facebook page, "Is it possible for one to be so consumed with a desire to be smart that he/she outsmarts self and is not smart at all? Folks, most things that we need to know are pretty simple if we would just be happy with the truth. Digging too deep at the well of scholarship may cause us to overlook the simplicity of things and leave us with a head full of confusion."