



SPIRITUAL BIOHAZARDS

OF COLLEGE LIFE

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COC @ UNO
Milo Bail Student Center

Part 4:

REDEEMING THE TIME

{Ephesians 5:15-16}

Purpose: God calls Christian to diligent watchfulness over their schedules because the era in which we live is tempting and because we have high pursuits.

C.H. Spurgeon: “It is by little procrastinations that men ruin their souls.”¹

¹ *Morning and Evening*, November, 24, PM.

1. **Time Redemption and the Gospel Life (5:15)**

Peter T. O'Brien (1999): "...wisdom and mystery go together." ²

2. **Time Redemption and Current History (5:16)**

KJV: "Redeeming the time..."

Richard Baxter (1673): "1. To redeem time is to see that we cast none of it away in vain; but use every minute of it as a most precious thing, and spend it wholly in the way of duty. 2. That we be not only doing good, but doing the best and greatest good which we are able and have a call to do. 3. That we do not only the best things, but do them in the best manner and in the greatest measure, and do as much good as possibly we can. 4. That we watch for special opportunities. 5. That we presently take them then they fall, and improve them when we take them. 6. That we part with all that is to be parted with, to save our time ... This is the true redeeming of our time." ³

a. "because the days are evil"

b. Time is short (*not in Ephesians text*)

ESV Revelation 19:7 "Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready"

ESV Romans 13:11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For

² *The Letter to the Ephesians*, 381.

³ *A Christian Directory*, 231. Pages 230-246 is concerned with redeeming the time.

salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.

ESV 1 Corinthians 7:29 This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, 30 and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, 31 and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Robert Murray M'Cheyne (1813-43): "As I was walking in the fields, the thought came over me with almost overwhelming power, that every one of my flock must soon be in heaven or hell. Oh, how I wished that I had a tongue like thunder, that I might make all hear; of that I had a frame like iron, that I might visit every one, and say, 'Escape for thy life!'" ⁴

Richard Baxter (1673): "my soul is frequently amazed with admiration, that the sluggish world can so insensibly and impenitently go on in wasting precious time, so near eternity, and in so needy and dangerous a case ... yet I wonder at myself that such overpowering motives compel me not to make continual haste, and to be still at work with all my might, in a case of everlasting consequence." ⁵

⁴ Andrew Bonar, *Memoirs and Remains of Robert Murray M'Cheyne*, 148.

⁵ *A Christian Directory*, 246.

3. Time Redemption and the Love of Christ (3:14-19)

C.S. Lewis (1965): "... if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered to us, like and ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased." ⁶

John Owen (1657): "If [the Savior] could be conceived as separated from the Deity, surely so many thirsty, guilty souls, as every day drink deep and large draughts of grace and mercy from him, would sink him to the very bottom ... [of the divine Savior] if all the world should set themselves to drink free grace, mercy, and pardon, drawing water continually from the wells of salvation ... they would not be able to sink the grace of the promise one hair's breadth. There is enough for millions of worlds, if they were; because it flows into it from an infinite, bottomless fountain." ⁷

C.H. Spurgeon (1866): "it will be too small profit that we shall talk to you about the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, of the love of Christ unless there be in your soul a devout longing ambition to set the Lord Jesus always before you, as the frequent, if not, the constant subject of your meditation."

COMING UP ...

Oct. 28: *Pursuit of God* discussion; pp. 31-46; 7:00 PM; OBC.

Nov. 4: **Spiritual Biohazards**, pt. 5, 7:00 PM; MBSC

⁶ *The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses*, 1-2.

⁷ 2:61-62.