

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

MORNING MESSAGE

“WANTED: CHRISTIAN STEWARDS”

“The Stewardship of Time”

Ephesians 5:15-16

INTRODUCTION

- A. Jim Rohn, “Time is our most valuable asset, yet we tend to waste it, kill it, and spend it rather than invest it”
- B. Carl Sandburg, “Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you”
- I. THE PRINCIPLE (v.15)
 - A. One of Paul’s favorite words was “walk”
 - 1. The Greek word describes your lifestyle, activities, and behavior
 - B. He tells the Ephesian believers to “walk circumspectly”
 - 1. “Circumspectly” means to walk carefully, looking around, watching where you step
 - 2. New American Standard, “Be careful how you walk”
- II. THE PRIORITY (v.16a)
 - A. Paul was concerned that believers use their time wisely
 - 1. He used the same phrase in Colossians 4:5
 - B. “Redeeming the time” literally means “buying out the opportunity”
 - 1. It means to take advantage of every opportunity
- III. THE PURPOSE (v.16b)
 - A. Paul gives one reason for being a good steward of your time: because the days are evil
 - 1. The Greek word translated evil is “poneros”; it gives us the English word “pornography”
 - B. Some other reasons for being a good steward of your time
 - 1. Because time is uncertain
 - a. Proverbs 27:1, “Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth”
 - 2. Because time is short
 - a. James 4:14, “For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away”
 - 3. Because time is running out
 - a. 1 John 2:17, “And the world passeth away”
 - 4. Because time will one day be over
 - a. 2 Corinthians 6:2, “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation”