

## *Sermon Notes -- Themes from Ephesians*

“Time is of the Essence” – Ephesians 5:15-20

### I. Introduction.

#### A. Challenge in preparing for ministry.

1. Acquiring facts.
2. Wisdom.
3. The Bible contains both.
  - a. Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 90:12

### II. Exposition

#### A. Redeeming the time – Ephesians 5:15-16

1. Time is critical.
2. Many Greek words to describe it.

*Hemera, Hora, Kairos, Chronos, Aion*
3. Contrast between *chronos* and *kairos*
  - a. *Chronos*
  - b. *Kairos*

Compare: Acts 24:25; I Peter 1:11; Mark 26:18
4. Paul’s main point – time is to have a full meaningful element for a wise Christian.
5. *Coram Deo*

#### B. Knowing the Lord’s will – Ephesians 5:17

1. Not just Scriptures, but also our preoccupation of what God is doing in history (i.e. “End Times” – interpreting what God is going to do through the news of the day.)
2. A fool lacks this wisdom.

#### C. Being filled with the Spirit – Ephesians 5:18-21

1. Not miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit but rather the Holy Spirit’s control and leading over our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Book of Acts – Being filled with the Spirit – ten occasions.

- a. The company waiting in the upper room on the day of Pentecost (2:4)
- b. Peter before he spoke to the Sanhedrin (4:80)
- c. A group of early Christians (4:31)
- d. The first deacons (6:3)
- e. Stephen (6:5)
- f. A second reference to Stephen (7:55)
- g. Paul (9:17)
- h. A second reference to Paul (13:9)
- i. Barnabas (11:24)
- j. The disciples at Antioch (13:52)

#### 3. Three things Paul has in mind.

- a. Worship – Verse 19
- b. Praise – Verse 19
- c. Thankfulness – Verse 20

### III. Time is of the Essence

#### A. Revisit to the contrast of *chronos* and *kairos*

1. *Chronos*
2. *Kairos*

#### B. The “Now”

1. I Peter 2:10
2. Luke 6:21
3. II Corinthians 6:2

### IV. Points for Reflection.

- A. We must redeem the time for we have been chosen not only for salvation, but also to represent our God and Father in the days and times of our lives.
- B. Wisdom for today is needed in analyzing the days in which we live.
- C. The more we resist the Holy Spirit’s work in our lives the less we will be filled.
- D. Time is of the essence!