

## Redeeming the Time

### Scripture

“Therefore do not be partakers with them. For you were once darkness, but now [you are] light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit [is] in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose [them]. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” (Eph 5:7-16 NKJV)

### Devotion

Those who have been saved are new creatures in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17). This is not just window dressing, but real core change. Believers have the capacity for worship and obedience that was absent before the new birth.

Unfortunately, while the spirit has been quickened, the flesh remains corrupt until we leave this world. Therefore, it is our responsibility before Christ to mortify the flesh. So we are told “. . . seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” (Col 3:1-3 NKJV)

We may mortify our flesh by exposing it to the light, setting our minds on things above. The more light you have the more sin is revealed, and the more sin is revealed the easier it is to be disgusted by it. Look carefully at your motives and see how much you have defiled your conscience then the weight of it will drive you to your knees to seek a merciful Savior. “For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin.” (Ps 38:18 NKJV)

We are to have no fellowship with darkness. Therefore, the Scriptures say. “Walk as children of the light . . . finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.” This is redeeming the time, living our lives in the service of the risen Lord. Not so much in doing like Martha, but worshiping in spirit and truth like Mary. Then the Lord will declare some day, “. . . Well [done], good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.” (Mt 25:21 NKJV)