

Turn in your Bibles with me this morning, please, to the book of Ephesians. And to the fifth chapter Ephesians chapter five. I've mentioned to it to you before, but I hope you enjoy singing from the book of Psalms for singing. This is one of the few collections that covers every song, from start to finish 119 Are is just the next section of Psalm 119. That's what the letters indicate. And it attempts to use familiar tunes to make the Psalms more accessible. I first encountered this collection of Psalms 20 Some years ago, and it was a great blessing to me, the edition we have is one of the older editions, because the later edition is not not based on the same scriptures that we use. But we were very blessed to be able to find it. I hope you have your place now in Ephesians chapter five. And I'm going to start our scripture reading in the 14th verse, and read through the 20th our reading kind of begins mid thought, Wherefore, verse 14, he says, Awake thou that sleepeth and rise from the dead, For Christ shall give the light. See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore, be not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit, Speaking to yourselves in psalms, and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, Giving thanks always, for all things under God and the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us bow for prayer.

Gracious Father. Now as we open, the precious inspired Word of God, we pray, Lord, that You would open our ears protect us So Father, from the wandering mind, that plagues us in the preaching of God's Word. Protect us, oh Lord, from the drooping eyes that can become weary. Father, this message from thy word, these verses we're going to consider are the most important thing we'll hear all year. This is the Word of God. So Father, may we indeed be blessed? For you said, blessed are your ears, for they hear, and your eyes for they see, bless Thy Word to us this day, in Jesus name, amen.

Our text this morning is that 16th Verse, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Life does not have a rough draft. About that. Most of us at some time, in high school or in advanced studies have been required to prepare a paper. And we always prepare a rough draft. And then we take the rough draft and we refine it into the final paper, the final project life does not have a rough draft. Life does not have do overs. If you play golf, and I'm not a golfer, but life doesn't have a mulligan. You don't get to try to hit the ball again and not count the previous one. This is all there is folks. This is it. There's not a practice draft and then a final draft. There's not Oh, well, that didn't work out. So well. Let's do it again. My father used to say and he drilled it into my mind only one life will soon be passed only for what's done for Christ will last. This time is the only time that we have. You see you realize there is no time in eternity. Eternity is timeless. 1000 years as a day in a day is 1000 years. This time is the only time we have and our texts instructs us to redeem that time to redeem it. We'll talk a little bit more about that word redeem in a moment to redeem them means to purchase again. It means to buy back and Adam Clark, the old commentator, put it this way, buy up the moments that others throw away. Buy up the moments that others throw away. That's a good way to describe Redeeming the time. There's no time and eternity, we must work today, for there's no work where we're going. We have to buy up the time, we have to buy back the scattered moments that we waste on the things of this world, because there's only one life and it will soon be past. And the only

things that are going to last are what's done for Christ. All the things we accumulate in this world mean nothing. All the accolades we received from the world do not follow us. Yes, we read in Scripture, and their works do follow them. But that has nothing to do with who was salesman of the month. It has nothing to do with who got the promotion. It has nothing to do with who got a plaque on the wall that said he'd achieved this or that I still have some trophies from sports and high school. And I enjoy getting them out just for the nostalgia not getting them out there in the shed where they've been, since we left for the mission field. And sometimes we're looking for something they're in the way. But they mean nothing. And so we are instructed to redeem the time to buy back the wasted hours, the wasted moments, buy up all the time, that is available. And the reason we're instructed to do so is because the days are evil. In other words, by up the days because they're evil, they're passing. They're short. We're surrounded by evil, this life is rushing past us, it will soon be done. And this time, is the only time we have we live in an evil time. What is the difference between the United States and Saddam? I would say the only difference is the judgment hasn't come yet. Our actions as a nation, are no different. And even in many cases worse. The only difference between the United States and Saddam is our judgments still waiting. It's still to come. Our sojourn on Earth, Earth is brief and difficult. In this life, we are perpetually sub subject to perpetually subject to the wiles of the devil, our adversary the devil as a roaring lion walketh, about seeking whom he may devour. And so, job tells us in job 14, the first two verses, man that is born of woman is of a few days and full of trouble, he coming forth like a flower and is cut down, he flee it also is a shadow and continue with not. And the psalmist in Psalm 123 follows that same theme as for man his days are his grass is the flower the field so he flourishes in the wind patch with over it, and it is gone, and the place thereof shall know it no more. And James tells us when James for go to now even say tomorrow, or today or tomorrow, we will go into such a city and continue their year and buy and sell and get game. Whereas you know not what shall be on tomorrow. For what is your life. It's even a vapor that appears for a little while, and then vanishes away. And Peter tells us the first pure one, all flesh is his grass the glory of man is the flower of the glass, the grass whether it's a flower of faith, but the word of the Lord and Dora forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. Solomon Ecclesiastes 12 Remember now thy Creator in the days of the youth while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nine when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. Have you ever said that? I have no pleasure in dwelling in this city anymore. I have no pleasure in this place. I'm done with it all. Ecclesiastes 11 Rejoice, oh, young man in the youth. And let thy heart cheer the in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart and in the sight of thine eyes. But know thou that for all these things, the Lord shall bring thee into judgment.

And so with that foundation of a multitude of scriptures, how do we Redeem the time? How is it as believers that we can take this admonition to redeem the time for the days are evil, and actually put it into practice? What are some things we can do to redeem the time, they say that to establish a new habit takes between 30 and 60 days. In other words, if you start doing something consistently, for 30 days, by the end of 60 days, it should be ingrained in you it should be something you're accustomed to do. And we've seen this in many physical ways. When you always get up at five in the morning, before long you your alarm clock, irrelevant, you just wake up your body has gotten into that pattern. When you eat dinner at a certain time,

your body will become hungry at that time in the day. As believers, should not we train ourselves in prayer that way. But it's time to pray. In the study of God's word, that way, it's time to read and being in church. Does it feel wrong to you if you're not in worship on the Lord's day? A lot of people don't, and they would call themselves Christians.

So let's try to make this practical. First of all, and I believe most importantly, we are to redeem the time, by panting after our God and all the things we're going to sit here today start with P's, where to redeem the time by panting after our God as the heart panteth after the water brooks, so my soul panteth, after the Oh God, my soul thirst for God for the living God, when shall I come and appear before God? Psalm 42, verses one and two, the deer that is running from the hounds, running from the foxes, is exhausted and thirsty, and that deer pants for the water brooks, because it knows if it does not get the water, it will perish. It knows if it does not get to the water, it will no longer have the energy and the strength to continue to run from the hounds. And hear David in Psalm 42. Running from Soul and in separation from the tabernacle of the Most High God. He said, my soul pants, My soul is so thirsty for God, when shall I come and appear before God? Folks, most of us don't live that way. Oh, we're so eager to wins this and wins that this has to be done. And I've got my to do list. And there's things in the back yard that need to be taken up and then taken care of. And there's this at work and all these things that consume our thoughts and consume our beings. But the heart has one thing he must have, I must have the water prompts. My friend, if we're to redeem the time, we have to have that same hunger and thirst for God. For blessing are they do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. We begin to redeem the time when our fellowship with God is the most important part of every day, and the most important part of every hour. Oh man, we truly pant after Jehovah God.

But Scripture gives us the illustration of the opposite mindset. And that is found in the Book of Revelation chapter three, and so turned with me there to the sad illustration and Revelation three of the church of Laodicea. And in Revelation three starting in verse 14, And to the angel the church of labor to see or write these things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness the beginning of the creation of God I know thy works, that thou art neither hot nor cold, I would that thou are hot or cold. First of all, let me notice, Let us notice that God says I know your works. I know if you're thirsty or not. I know what you hunger and thirst after I know your works. Oh, we may be able to hide it from our friends and our brethren. God says, I know thy works. So then, because thou are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew the out of my mouth. Because I'll say it I am rich and increasing goods and have need of nothing, and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked, I counsel thee to buy me gold. May God free us from Laodicea and cause us to panic after God? For then we will truly Redeem the time. Hello, everyone that thirst, calm to the waters. The second way that we Redeem the time is by pursuing that which is truly valuable, pursuing that which is truly valuable. And Psalm 27 And verse four, David said one thing, have I desired the Lord, that will I seek after that I may dwell in the house of Lord all the days of my life to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire at his temple? How much time do we spend pursuing nonsense? How much time do we spend reading foolishness, folks? You know, I'm an old car guy. I always say I was born with grease under my fingernails. How much time do I spend reading Hemmings

classic motors. I read it, folks. But oh, well, there's time that can be redeemed. There's time that can be better used? Sure. It's good reading, it's enjoyable. But why do we not hunger and thirst for the reading of God's word? Why do we not dedicate our entire being to pursuing that which has no value? And this goes into every area of our life, what is really important to me? What are the things that I really value in life, For you see, Christ told us not the lamp treasures on earth, here we're moth and rust with corrupt, but the lay up treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust out corrupt because where your treasure is, there will your heart be also we can redeem the time by pursuing that which has heavenly value, rather than that which has only earthly value. And this pursuing of heavenly values is in itself a mark of the new creature. We find this in multiple scriptures in Ephesians 4:20, a lie hidden and stole steal no more. But rather let him labor with his hands that which is good, that he may have to give to him that need it. Think about what that verse is telling us, the man who's been the thief, it's all about me, it's all about me, I gotta have this, they gotta have this. And I don't want to work for any of it. So I'm going to steal I'm going to stake I'm going to go into stores and smash and grab and so on and so forth. But the man who has been transformed by the power of God, his whole psyche, his whole goal in life has been changed. But hidden that stole steel, no more but row labor and the reason the labor that he may have to give to him that needed. He's no longer looking at me, me, me, but rather give give give, you've been transformed. And then again, in Acts 20, verse 35, I have showed you all things how that so laboring you all to support the weak and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. And again it looks three verse 11, he answered and said unto them, he they had two coats let him in part one to him, they had none that he and he didn't have meat. They didn't do likewise. We Redeem the time by pursuing heavenly values, rather than the values of this.

Thirdly, we can redeem the time can redeem the time in our prayers. John Wesley got up at four o'clock every morning to pray, to pray. And there are jokes within Methodist circles in his study, there are two warm spots where supposedly he wore the floor with his knees. And the wall is all stayed. They said his breath, stay in the state of the paint on the wall. And there's all kinds of jokes about breath and stains, paint. But he was a man who understood that he needed to spend his day in prayer. John Wesley would be up at four in the morning to pray and often would preach his first sermon by five o'clock. Because you see, the history of John Wesley was that he was kicked out of the Anglican Church. And he went outside the church where he had been pastoring and topped up on his father's tombstone and preached from there. But he saw the miners, not children, but But men who mined in the in the deep mines. He saw them on their way to their mines, many of them working seven days a week. And he saw them as a godless lot that no one was evangelizing. And so he started getting up at four o'clock to pray. And at five o'clock, he will be standing outside the mines preaching to the miners, as they went in. And that's where the great revival that saved England started. We can redeem the time in prayer. Folks I like to sleep in I love to get that extra weight. But oh, how much more important that is to get up and pray. To pray, spend time with the Lord in prayer. Remember Christ in the garden when he finds them asleep. And Matthew finds the disciples asleep in Matthew 26. And it's interesting. It says in verse 40, of Matthew 2060, committed to disciples, find them asleep and say it's under Peter, what could you not watch with one hour? And the only thing he doesn't say to all the disciples, Peter, could you not watch with the one hour? Why Peter, or

Peter was the one that say, although everybody's rights protection, I will forsake you. And Peter was an hour away from denying the Lord. You know, maybe, maybe, if Peter had been praying, instead of sleeping, he would have had the faith to stand up to the maid and to the others and say, Yes, I know him. He's my Lord. But instead of denied, Redeeming the time, through prayer, pray without ceasing. Psalm 55:17 Evening and morning at noon, I will pray and cry aloud. And he shows hear my voice set aside a specific time for prayer, prayer, I took prayer, I prioritize prayer, make use of prayer list, and be always in a spirit of prayer. When we were in Jamaica, some of the best prayer times I had was driving across the island, it would take an hour and a half to get from our mission station over to Montego Bay, which was the nearest big city for some of our supplies. And some wonderful days of prayer, just driving. Just talking to the Lord, praying out loud in the car by yourself. Praying early in the morning, pausing in the middle of the day to pray. And in the day with prayer. As I said to my wife this morning, do as I say, not as I do. Because I would love to be able to stand here and tell you that that's the kind of prayer life that I have. But oh brother and friends how we need to redeem that time. How much time is wasted on other things that could be spent in prayer, how we need to turn off the stupid radio in the car and spend their time talking with the Lord to use that bit of time that has no other purpose than to pray. So we Redeem the time by panting after the Lord and by pursuing that, which is a value of by prayer.

But fourthly, we Redeem the time in praising the Lord. Redeem the time in praise and look at verses 19 and 20 of our text back in Ephesians, chapter five, verse 19, Speaking to yourselves in psalms, and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, you notice how the audience's they're looking at verse 19. Again, speaking to your brethren, speaking to the congregation, know, speaking to yourselves, Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. And so you're speaking to your soul self in prayer. In other words, your mana admonishing your own heart and admonishing your own spirit. God is holy, you're not. God is worthy of praise, and you're worthy of his rebuke. And so we are singing praises to the Lord. And those praises are a conviction and a stirring to our own soul. Because the more we praise him, the more we acknowledge that he's worthy of our praise. And the more we praise him, the more we acknowledge that we are sinful people that deserve to be in hell right now. But hallelujah, what a Savior, He has saved us. An old song from sinking sand, he rescued me. With loving hand, he rescued me from Shades of night to plane some planes of light. He rescued me. We need to praise Him. And so there are three areas in which I'd like us to consider Redeeming the time in praise. And the first is in private praise. I realized that David wasn't composing the Psalms, many of them some of them were composed for, for the for the singers and so on. But many of his songs were composed when he was out in the field with a sheet and he was playing his harp, and he was singing to the Lord. We praise the Lord in private. Psalm 33, verses one through three Rejoice in the Lord all your righteous for praise is commonly for the upright, praise the Lord with heart, singing to him with a soul tree and an instrument of 10 string, Sing unto him a new song, play skillfully, with a loud noise. And dear person is very dear to me. As often said, I can't sing well, but a sing loud anyway. Don't have a beautiful voice, but I belted out the Lord and I can tell you this brother does. He sings out to the Lord, because he's not singing to the person beside him. He's not singing to the congregation. He is singing to himself

in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, giving thanks and praise to the Lord. Right. So we praise the Lord, privately, private worship, but also we praise the Lord corporately, and I'm not using public yet we'll get to that. But we praise the Lord corporately. In other words, we join our voices together in praise the Lord right above the door, it says Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there, I'm in the midst. We join our hearts and our voices together. And we sing as one chorus to the Lord, lifting up our voice as one praising our God in public worship. And we find this in Scripture as well. Psalm 111, verses one and two, praise you the Lord. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart in the midst of are in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation, the works of the Lord are great, sought out by all those that have pleasure in them. We sing unto the Lord in the assembly, I will give thanks to the end of the great congregation, I will praise thee among much people. And so we praise the Lord publicly or privately, and we praise the Lord corporately, but also I believe we're to praise the Lord publicly. And here we go to Psalm 109 And verse 30, where the psalmist says, I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth yay, I will sing praise unto him in the multitude. And when we find that word, multitude in Scripture, it most often is not speaking of the multitude of the saints, but rather the multitude of the Gentiles. It speaking of the unbelieving world, singer Salah prays at the top of your lungs at work among the multitude.

I was in the Charles de Gaulle Airport in France, and huge, big concourse wider than a gymnasium. And I heard a piano playing hymns. And I was I was on a lay over there. What is this, I walked down here and here's a young man playing hymns. And before long there were three or four of us standing there at the piano and the Charles de Gaulle Airport, he's playing beautiful hymns, and we're singing at the top of our lungs. And most of the people walking by didn't pay a bit of attention.

But God was paying attention! As we were singing to him, we were blessed by the exercise. And the multitude did here, whether they wanted to or not. It was a glorious experience. It's just a blessing thing to run into three other believers for counting the pianist in the Charles de Gaulle Airport. And see, we can sing unto the Lord in any situation in any environment. We sing the praises of the Lord publicly, and that is Redeeming the time. Because we were on a layover, it was wasted time in the airport. But we can redeem the time in praising the Lord. I will speak of the testimonies before kings, and will not be ashamed write that reference down. If you're taking references at Psalm 119 46. I will speak of thy testimony before kings, and will not be ashamed.

So we can redeem the time by panting after God by pursuing that which is a value by praying by praising. But we also Redeem the time in our prayers, participate in our participation. We Redeem the time by using our time to participate in the things of God to participate in that which is valuable. don't plan on serving the Lord later. They drilled this into us and call it Bible College. don't plan on serving the Lord. When you get to the mission field, if you're not a missionary, now you will be one day or either. Don't plan on serving the Lord at some point in your life, because that point in your life will never come right. If you're not serving the Lord, now, you're not going to serve him tomorrow either. Because they'll always be something that comes along. But you see, we serve the Lord with our participation in the work of the Lord. And that involves our witness for the Lord, and involves our care for our neighbors, whether

believers or not, it involves our attitudes of the stores, I get frustrated, folks, I hate standing in line. But oh, how we can lose our testimony standing in line, rather than participating in the work of the Lord, even in that line, but your light so shine before men, they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which isn't heaven.

You see, I hope you're getting the theme here that there's moments all throughout our day that are wasted. Yes, that can be bought back can be redeemed for the Lord. Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God? It is He that has made us and not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Who do you belong to? Then whose time are you wasting? You know, when we're at work, if you're working an hourly job, you don't own that time you have sold that time to your employer. We are bought with a price he has bought our time. And so no, he does the Lord He is God is He that made you we are His people and the sheep of his past. You know what we belong to shepherd and a shepherd does not buy pets. A shepherd purchases sheep to a person to a piece or getting them a tongue. The shepherd purchases sheep to a purpose. The shepherd doesn't have pet sheep. He has sheep that are profitable to His purpose. And we are bought with a price therefore glorify God and your body, your spirit which are his, whatsoever they each will do do it heartily as unto the Lord and not as unto man. Isn't that a good verse on buying back the time Colossians three, verse 23? And whatsoever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not to men. You're not doing your job as if you're just pleasing the boss, but rather we do it as unto the Lord.

And so Christ Himself (and I mentioned this verse in prayer), but Christ Himself said in John nine, verse 4, I must work the works of him that sent me while his dead day. The night cometh, when no man shall work and so rejoice To redeem the time well done good and faithful servant, Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. We redeem the time, by partaking in what brother Vince mentioned this somewhat in Sunday school about, about reading the Word of God and taking the Word of God and we Redeem the time by partaking of spiritual things, by partaking of the bread of the Word of God, by partaking of the manner that God spreads in our place.

And since we're going with P's, instead of partaking, I think it'd be better to say we Redeem the time by pigging out, by pigging out and we know what that phrase means, by gorging ourselves, by eating and abundance by eating every crumb off the plate by taking it all. We redeemed the time by partaking of spiritual things, thy words were found, and I did eat them, and I were was under me the joy and rejoicing in my heart, for I am called by thy name, O Lord, God of host, oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless it as the man that trusteth in him, neither have I gone back tonight, the commandment I lips, I have esteemed the words of thy mouth more than my necessary food. The fear of the Lord is clean and during forever the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous all together. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, that much fine gold, sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Ever had raw honey? My grandfather kept bees. And sometimes he would get into the hive and just break off a piece of honey and not even put it in the extractor you just hand his grandson's pieces of the beeswax and you put that in your mouth and bite down and the honey would just

burst out at it. And it was so sweet that you couldn't take but a small piece because you get sick at your belly. It was so sweet. Oh, my friends. Could we truly Redeem the time to such a point that the word of God had that same appeal to us that it was so sweet. There was a "knock it off. I can't take in any more right now." That would truly be buying back, redeeming the wasted time of our lives. Moreover, by them, thy servant is warned and keep you them. There is great reward. We've got to move along.

But we Redeem the time by panting by pursuing by praying by praising by participating and we Redeem the time by persevering. And folks, I think I need this one more than anything else. Redeem the time by persevering and be not weary in well doing for in due time you shall reap if you faint not. And my father drilled into me again and again. Second Timothy chapter two and verse three. Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. I guarantee you is hundreds of times I heard my dad say that to me. Joe indoor hardness is a good soldier Jesus Christ. In college I call Dad complaining about a certain assignment. Joe Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. The first two years on the mission field we face all kinds of adversity our house was destroyed in a hurricane we had no roof. Penny was pregnant. We had rats in our water tank. We had no electricity, we just you name it everything going wrong we couldn't get water. And my father would say Joe, endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. And see we Redeem the time through endurance pressing on pressing on continuing no more that worth the next verse and tag with himself with the affairs of his life that he made please him who had called him to be a soldier. We've got some soldiers and some veterans in our midst. The soldier he follows what the general says to do. And what the captain says three all the way down to the corporal and the sergeant. He follows the directions are is not the reason why ours but the do and die. That oh how we can waste time by complaining instead of persevering by fretting, instead of doing that which God has assigned for us to do but watch out all things. Do the work in advance Angelus.

I'm sorry, I left out the most part of the part of the verse Second Timothy four or five. But watch down all things endure affliction. Do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of the ministry. Matthew 1022. And you shall be hated of all men say men's for hated of all men for my namesake, but he that endure it to the end shall be saved, that's not talking about, you'll gain salvation by enduring to the end. But he that presses on, his salvation is made manifest because God will deliver him from that which he's persevering in God will deliver from his trials. Psalm or proverbs 24, verse 10, is a verse that I came across 10 or 15 years ago, and it just arrested my attention. I've actually preached from this text, Proverbs 24, verse 10, if thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small. If they'll faintest in the day of adversity, the strength is small. In other words, if I faint in adversity, strength, often season his because his strength is small. But if I faint in the day of adversity, the problem is I'm trusting my own strength and indeed is small. We need to trust the strength of the God of heaven, and persevere. And so, to review, again, we're panting we're pursuing we're praying, we're praising we're participating, partaking in persevering. But the last one is the most important.



We Redeem the time by perishing. We Redeem the time, by dying. I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless, I live yet, not I. But Christ live within me. You see, the reason we don't Redeem the time is because the old man's running around wasting it.

The reason we're not Redeeming the time is because the old man, this wretched man that I am. He's the one that's using it. Because my new creature in Christ isn't interested in those things. Right? It is the new creature that desires to pray, is the new creature that desires to participate is the new creature that pursues after righteousness is the new creature that praises the Lord, the old man doesn't do any of that. And so if I am to truly Redeem the time, I got to perish. I'm gonna die to all those things, and die to all the time wasting, that is so much a part of my old nature. For the love of Christ constrains us because we thus judge that if one died for all than all were dead, and that He died for all they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them and rose again. And they are they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections, there of Peter said in First Peter four verses one through three, for as much that as Christ have suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind, for he that has suffered the flesh have ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lust of men, but to the will of God. You want a verse for 2023, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh, to the lust of men, but to the will of God. That we not live this year to the lust of the flesh and the will of men, but to the will of God, for the time passed of our lives may suffice to have wrought the will of the Gentiles when we walked in lasciviousness, last excessive wine, reveling, banqueting and abominable idolatries. First Peter one, verses four through three. And so, to conclude, we have one little phrase from Paul in First Corinthians 13 Verse, or verses 15 Verse 31. I die daily. If we are to redeem the time, we've got to die to that old man, that we might live to Christ, that God give us grace to make this New Year 2023, the year of greatest revival we've ever known. When we come to the first day of 2024, we look back and say, I'm backslidden. Or I have progressed in righteousness for God.

Let's stand and pray. Father, again we pray, may we not be forgetful, here's where we've seen a lot of Scripture today, may it be ingrained into our being. Father help us indeed to die to the old man, and to buy back every moment we can, in Jesus name, amen.