

Your Time Is Not Your Time

Acts 17:16-28

Ephesians 5:15-17

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Psalm 139:1-16

Lie #29 - There is no eternal absolute standard of righteousness (Part 2a).



15 March 2026

2026 Goals

God Created the Ages (Hebrews 1:1-2)

- **The Most Important Verse in the Bible:** Genesis 1:1
 - ★ Space, **Time**, and Matter
 - ★ Get this verse wrong and you will get everything after it wrong.
- Zechariah 12:1; Colossians 1:16-17; John 1:3; Isaiah 45:12, 18; Psalm 102:25; Job 41:11; 1 Chronicles 29:11-14; Psalm 24:1; 50:12; 115:16; Deut 10:12-14.
- **ALL HISTORY is the unfolding of the MOST HIGH GOD's decree/plan.**
- God **knew** all that He would ever do from all eternity (Acts 15:18)
- Sovereignty of the Creator
 - As the sovereign Creator He does whatever He pleases, whenever He pleases, where He pleases, with whatever He pleases, **always** as He pleases. (Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Daniel 4:35; Isaiah 46:9-11; 14:24-27; Ephesians 1:11; Romans 8:28)
 - As the almighty sovereign Creator no creature can stop Him from doing as He pleases (Job 42:2; 23:13; Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 14:27; 46:10-11; Daniel 4:35; Jeremiah 4:28)
 - As the sovereign Creator He controls all of His creation from a small bird falling out of the sky (Matt 10:29) to moving kings and empires to accomplish His purpose (Proverbs 21:1; Revelation 17:17; Isaiah 44:28; 45:1; **37:26-29**; Jeremiah 25:9; 27:6).
 - As the sovereign Creator He makes nations great, uses nations and He destroys nations (Job 12:23).
 - As the sovereign Creator He controls all weather (Psalm 148:8; Jonah 1:4; 4:8; Mark 4:37-41; Amos 4:13; Job 28:26; 37:13)
 - As the sovereign Creator He gives peace and takes peace.
 - As the sovereign Creator He moves armies, navies, and air forces.
 - As the sovereign Creator He controls plagues and pestilence.
 - As the sovereign Creator He controls droughts, famines, disasters.
 - As the sovereign Creator He controls angels, demons, and the Devil.

- As the sovereign Creator He brings days of prosperity and He brings days of adversity. Both are from HIM. (Job 2:10; Ecclesiastes 7:14).
- As the sovereign Creator **NOTHING** happens without His **command** (Lamentations 3:37-38).
- As the sovereign Creator He decides who are His special people. (Eph 1:3-4; 1 Peter 2:9; Titus 2:14)
- As the sovereign Creator He gives mercy to whom He pleases and hardens whom He pleases. (Romans 9:16-18)
- As the sovereign Creator He decides when a person is born and when a person dies. (Zech 12:1; Psalm 139:16; Job 12:10; 14:5; Acts 17:25)
- As the sovereign Creator He decides when one is born-again. (James 1:18)
- As the sovereign Creator He has appointed a time for everything that is to happen in His creation! (Ecclesiastes 3:1; Galatians 4:4; Lam 3:37-38)

To Everything There is an Appointed Time (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

- “season” (*zeman*) - an appointed occasion, time.
 - **EVERYTHING** - anything and everything. Everything - everything.
 - From the greatest, biggest to the smallest. Even a small bird cannot fall out of the sky without it being the will of God. (Matt 10:29-30)
 - Meditate on the word “**everything**” as you think about the number of events happening in the world.
 - Even seemingly chance happenings are controlled by God. (Prov 16:33)
 - **EVERYTHING** that happens in the world fits perfectly into God’s plan. Nothing and no one is free of God’s control.
 - **EVERYTHING** that happens in life is **significant** because **EVERYTHING** fits into God’s plan.
 - **EVERYTHING** that happens in **my** life has purpose.

Christ’s Hour (John 17:1)

- (v.1) “the hour has come” - Christ knew that God, the Father, had a plan for His life. See - “**the hour**” - John 2:4; 7:6, 8, 30; 8:20; 12:23, 27; 13:1; 16:32; 17:1
- consider Hebrews 10:7 with Psalm 139:16.
- This “hour” was planned before time began. It was an important part of God’s eternal plan. Now all the “players” were in place for the greatest act in all of history. (1 Peter 1:18-20; Acts 2:23; 4:27-28)

God’s Timing in His Feasts (Leviticus 23) (See Handout: God’s Feasts 2026)

- (Leviticus 23:1-2) “feasts” - מועדים - “appointed times”

Paul at Athens (Acts 17:16-28)

- NOTICE: Paul did NOT go into proofs of the existence of God!!
- (v. 24) God made the world (*kosmos*) and **therefore** He is Lord of heaven and

- earth. He does not dwell in temples, mosques, or churches!!!
- (v. 25) God, the Creator, needs NOTHING!
 - (v. 25) God, the Creator, gives to **all** life and He takes life.
 - God, the Creator, gives breath to all (Job 12:10; Isaiah 42:5).
 - God, the Creator, gives all things! He gives and He takes away! (Job 1:21-22)
 - (v. 26) THERE IS ONLY ONE RACE! Races are a concept made up by man!
 - (v. 26) God has **determined their preappointed times**.
 - (v. 26) God has determined the boundaries of nations dwellings. One could even take this down to the individual level.
 - (v. 28) **In Him we live and move and have our being! MEDITATE**
 - IN HIM we live! In order for there to be life someone must already have it and give it! IN HIM IS LIFE (John 5:26)
 - IN HIM we move!
 - Newton's first law of motion states that an object in motion tends to remain in motion, and an object at rest tends to remain at rest.
 - In order for an object to be set into motion there first must be a MOVER. God is the One who has set ALL THINGS into motions and keeps them in motion to accomplish His purpose!
 - IN HIM we have our being! There must be a "first BE" and His name is YAHWEH - "I AM WHO I AM"!

Our Days Were Written Down Before Time Began (Psalm 139:16)

- Before we were even conceived by our parents God had already decided our days! (Jeremiah 1:5; Isaiah 44:28; 1 Kings 13:1-2)
- Our destiny (our time; our ways) is in God's hands (Daniel 5:23) - Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 16:9; 20:24.

Teach Us to Number Our Days (Psalm 90:12)

- That we may gain a heart to wisdom!
- Psalm 39:4 - ***that I may know how frail I am.***

Redeeming the Time (Ephesians 5:16-17)

- Time - seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years - is a gift from God.
- Time belongs to the Creator. He gives time as He pleases.
- We are obligated as recipients of this gift to be **good** stewards of every second, minute, hour, day, week, year that God gives us. **TO WASTE TIME IS SIN AGAINST GOD!**
- Our bodies, spirits, and our lives (measured by seconds, minutes, etc.) are NOT OURS! They belong to God. (1 Cor 6:19-20; Daniel 5:23; Job 12:10; Acts 17:25, 28)
- We do not know what tomorrow will bring. (James 4:13-16; Proverbs 27:1)

- **BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL.**

- One of Satan's craftiest temptation is distraction.
- How much time do we give to the internet, social media, entertainment – all these use time?

- **THEREFORE understand the will of the Lord.**

- Listen to Christ's warning AGAIN - Only those who do the will of His Father go to heaven. Wasting time, GOD's TIME, is not doing the will of God.

“Time” Sins

- ★ Misusing God's time. Many today fit God into their schedules. BUT God will NOT have it this way. God demands that you fit your schedule into His!
- Wasting God's gift of time.
- Procrastination - Hebrews 3:12-13
- Laziness (Hebrews 6:11-12; Proverbs 6:6; 21:25; 26:13, 15, 16; 18:9; Eph 2:10)
- Complacency (Zephaniah 1:12)
- Delayed Obedience (Hebrews 3:12-13)
- Not watchful (Luke 12:40; Matthew 25:1-13)

Steward of Other People's Time

- Others serve us using their time.
- Not being concerned with other people's time is disrespectful - sin.
- Not coming to an agreed meeting on time is not denying self and not considering others more important than yourself.
- Taking other people's time for granted.

Though God Is Sovereign His Creatures Are Responsible

- ★ SOVEREIGNTY IS GOD'S BUSINESS; OBEDIENCE IS THE CREATURE'S BUSINESS. GOD WILL DO HIS BUSINESS; WE ARE COMMANDED TO DO OURS!
- In the word “responsibility” we have the concept of “to respond”. ALL creatures are to respond to their Creator who gives them life and breath.
- The Creator demands diligence from all His creatures (Hebrews 11:6; Exodus 15:26; Deut 4:9; 6:7, 17; Deut 28:1; Psalm 119:4; 1 Peter 1:10).
- (1 Corinthians 15:58) In view of Christ's resurrection and God's promise to resurrect us on the last day we are commanded to “be steadfast, immovable, **always abounding** in the **work** of the Lord, know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord.”
- (Ephesians 5:17; 1 John 2:17) Understand the will of God and do it!
- We are called upon to know/discern the times (Luke 12:54-56; 1 Chron 12:32)
- (Ephesians 5:16) **We must redeem every second of God's gift.**