



November 9, 2008

## What To Do

Many times in our lives there are areas that need to be addressed. There are things that need to be done and we realize that changes are needed or situations resolved but for some reason we never find the time or seem to have the resources to accomplish them. Unfinished business in life may lead to anxiety or present us with a crisis that we are unprepared to deal with. At these times it is the habit of some to make excuses or seek to blame others for their own personal failings. We may have needs in areas such as health, family, finances or work that really need attention but we just never seem to take care of them. Over time these situations build up until we are faced with overwhelming problems that do not seem to have an answer. The response that some make is to continue to avoid taking care of these things and one day find themselves unable to do anything about them. One area that folks fail to take care of is that of a commitment or relationship with God. Paul, writing to the Corinthians, admonished them stating, “...**now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**” (2 Cor 6.2). As we read the scriptures we sense urgency when it comes to salvation. We have no guarantee that we will have tomorrow and yet we sometimes live as if we have all the time in the world. We sometimes hear stories about people who have not taken care of certain situations before they died or something happened that prevented them from being able to do what was needed. It is easy to get into a habit of putting things off and procrastination becomes a way of life for some. When we think of our souls and the risks we might take by not obeying the Gospel, or being as faithful as we should, we place our eternal souls in jeopardy. I have known of situations in which an individual meant to obey the Gospel but put it off for so long that they were unable to do anything about it or maybe even died in an unsaved condition. The scriptures teach diligence in all things but especially with regard to serving the Lord. Paul told the Romans, “**The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.**” (Rom 13.12). An inventory of our lives may reveal

some frightening realities. How do we spend most of our time. What activities do we engage in on a regular basis. How much of our life is spent on spiritual things rather than things that do not bring any lasting benefit. A brief survey of what we have accomplished, or failed to achieve, may bring surprising results. What legacy will we leave behind when we are gone and how will we be remembered. Will life be filled with regret and good intentions that were never fulfilled, or will we find comfort in knowing that when we had the ability to do what was right, we made the right decision. Paul told the Philippians, “**Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.**” (Phil 2.12). We need to ask ourselves where we stand with the Lord. Have we made the correct decision when it comes to obeying Him? Do we even know what we need to do? These are questions that will be answered at some point, whether in life, or in judgment, when we stand before Christ to give an account for the things that we have done. If we have not come to an understanding of God’s will, what holds us back? If we have obeyed, are we faithful to God, or do we simply let each pass us by without paying attention to what we can or must be doing? Each day we live we have the ability to make these decisions. No one knows how much time we have left on Earth and for that reason, each moment brings us closer to our own end and judgment. God has provided us with his will in a form that we can understand and obey. Unfortunately many will not heed the warnings or the call of God until it is too late. Each day we need to be asking ourselves these questions and if we do not know the answers, or are not living up to what we should do, we need to make the corrections.

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