



The Right Timing

Solomon makes a very interesting observation that has much to do with the problem of procrastination. Solomon writes, ***“He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.” (Eccl 11.4)***. We may all have experienced moments when we have pondered starting a project or other undertaking but were not sure of the right time to actually begin. After a while we may find that the right moment never comes and there is much that is left undone over a period of years. Should our health or other circumstances begin to limit our ability to get things done we may look around and begin to experience regret over the things that have not been accomplished. As we age we may get better at establishing priorities. What things need to be done now that cannot wait for another day? What can we accomplish even though things may not be ideal for the performance of a task? There is a saying that we hear from time to time, *carpe diem*, which is Latin for “seize the day”. The idea is that we need to evaluate the day and get things done that we are able to do. We also need to overlook the obstacles that appear to be in our way but need not prevent us from doing something. The right attitude toward accomplishment is why folks order seeds in December and January, begin seedlings in beds as early as January or February, and plant when the weather will allow. Others, on the other hand, wait for the right moment, good weather, dry ground and other things. Unfortunately there are few ideal days and many of them fall too late to accomplish anything or appear unexpectedly and become another missed opportunity. If we don’t get a garden planted, a shelf put up, room painted, repairs done or other physical things, they are usually not critical and won’t interfere with our life. Spiritually, however, becoming a child of God is one of those things that never seems to become a priority in the minds of some. It is too hard and demanding to read the Bible or contact someone who could answer a question. There are too many things to get done to sacrifice Sunday and Wednesday for worship and Bible study, and it is too much to ask

that we become somewhat comfortable and skilled in teaching the word. Well, while we may be putting off becoming a Christian or being more faithful, here are a few things that might spur us to reconsider our lives and do what we need to do before it is too late. There are no game consoles, beer, sports shows, strip clubs or other forms of entertainment in Hell. There will be no televisions, magazines, books, clubs or other activities other than wailing and gnashing of teeth in torment (**Matt 13.42-50**). We will not be able to visit the mall, health club or other shops. We will not be able to indulge in candy, ice cream, ice cubes or other things and we will not be able to socialize with our friends or surf the internet. There will be no boating, swimming, golfing or other activities that seem to take up so much time on the Lord’s day nor will we have the ability to take a rest, even for a moment from the suffering (**Lk 16.22-25**). We will have all the time we need to reflect on what could have been and what we could have accomplished or to have influenced someone else to be saved as well. We might read such passages as **Luke 16** and it may concern us for a moment but most will shrug off the entire issue and go about our daily tasks that appear to be more important. After death we will give an account for the things that have been done in the flesh (**2 Cor 5.10**). The issues mentioned above will not matter in the end. What will decide everything will begin with one issue. Are we a Christian, and, are we faithful? Everything after that is immaterial if those issues are unfulfilled. Peter states, ***“For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? (1 Pet 4.17)***. With that in mind, what do you really need to do today?