

The Time has Come!



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The Time has Come for us to be sure we are committed to live the Truth God has given us and to be reminded of some practical applications of it. We are saved by grace, but true grace is—

Titus 2:12 *“Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.”*

Any wrong desire or involvement with things that are of *no* spiritual value, should be put aside, denied, and given up—forever—and then asking God to give us a desire for things of *much* spiritual value. Our taking action against *things* or *attitudes* or *activities* we had tolerated, is how to look for the *blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Lord and Savior!*

It was Jesus Titus 2:14 *“Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.* We are often zealous for many things or interests, but they are not always spiritually beneficial, nor do they always have God’s favor or blessing.

Being zealous about something means we are *enthusiastic* about it; it means being *passionate* and intensely *interested* in something. We are *not*

always zealous to make things right with someone, and we find ourselves putting it off to the future—and maybe *never* resolving it.

If we need to say *I’m sorry to someone, or to remind them that we love them, The Time has Come to do that—2 Corinthians 6:2 “Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”*

If we knew for *certain* that Jesus is returning tomorrow—what would we *do* with those 24-hours! Many would say: I would tell my spouse and children that I love them; I would hug my parents; I would resolve a problem I have had with someone, and with God’s help, I would *forgive* everyone from my heart—everyone who ever wronged, offended, or insulted me!

Our life should never end with *regrets, unfinished* business, or *unresolved* issues with *anyone* about *anything*. We should live every day as if Jesus will return *tomorrow*.

He said Matthew 25:13 *“Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”* Live every day as if it was our *last*—and one day we will be *right!*

There was a servant who did *not* grow spiritually and did *not* make good use of the time he was given during his master’s *“Travelling into a far country”* Matthew 25:14. Unfortunately, the servant had to hear Matthew 25:30 *“Cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”*

A person once said—I need to make time for God—No, wait, that is not the right way to say it. It is *God’s time*—we are the ones *borrowing* it to do *other* things. Psalm 90:12 *“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”* Time is precious, and *fleeting*—may we *use* it wisely as we *follow* the example of the Lord Jesus!

God does not want us to live His Truth a *year* from now—He wants us to live it *today*—the time has Come to *live* His Truth zealously!

The time has come to *show* a right example, and to *focus* every moment on our spiritual attitude toward Him and everyone else. God wants to *use us* as His *servant*, so our life will be a right influence on *others* to *also* want His Truth.

Only *one* thing matters when Jesus returns—*not* that we accumulated money; *not* that we got the company promotion; *not* that we travelled all over the world; but it *really* matters that we *know* the Truth of the Bible *better* than we know what team is in first place! It *really* matters that we *prayed* more than we *watched* videos more.

It is so easy to be collecting treasures *on earth*—things on which we put too much value and importance—when the only thing that really matters is if we laid up treasures *in Heaven* by giving it away on earth. Where our *heart* really is, really matters.

Matthew 6:19 *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where [no one can steal them].”* Where our *treasure* is, is where our *heart* is!

People speak from the *overflow* of their heart. Luke 6:45 *“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.”*

If we are always thinking about *everything* other than the things of God, then Jesus is *not* the *overflow* of our heart.

It was said: *It seems that nobody is telling anybody about Somebody who can save everybody!*

When we stand before the throne of God, we want to *do* so knowing that we were *zealous* for the Truth; that with the Holy Spirit *inspiring* us, we *lived* that Truth and influenced those around

us; that we *showed* a godly example to all—at school, work, during sports, and every other time.

Jesus told us *not* to fear *anything*, but Revelation 2:10 “*Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*” *The Time has Come* to live God’s Truth; *now* is the *day* to be a right influence; *now* is the hour to forgive someone; *now* is the opportunity to give scriptural advice to a friend; *now* is the time to live a *Truth* that will lead us to *Heaven*. Amos 4:12 “*Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.*”

If a small child were getting ready to run into a busy street, we would immediately pull them back from danger. Jude 1:21 “*Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire.*”

If we would pull someone away from danger in an *earthly* sense; we should also pull someone away from *Hell* in an *eternal* sense!

Time is *precious*; we must *not* waste it—Romans 13:11 “*And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 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.*”

We should not tolerate anything in our life that is *outside* the will of God—we should know that the time has come to make changes or corrections; to make adjustments or apologies; or to just make a commitment to live the Truth God has so graciously given us.

It is “*High time to awake out of sleep*”—because Jesus could return *soon* and *suddenly*—and we “*Know neither the day nor the hour,*” Matthew 25:13. We must *use* our time *wisely*—it is *precious*! Once it is lost, we can never get it back!

The Time has Come to walk in the light of God’s Truth—no matter what anyone *else* is doing or how *they* are living. We answer to the *One* who *paid* for our life with His own precious Blood. If those we are with want to *do* something, or to *go* somewhere that is *outside* of God’s will, we must walk away and find something else to do *within* His will.

It’s been said: If a man wants to lead an orchestra, he must *turn his back* on the crowd. As we live God’s Truth each day, we may have to *turn our back* on the crowd so we can follow our Lord and Master.

We must *not* be influenced by what *others* may say, as we will one day face Jesus in *Heaven*, and answer for every decision we made on *earth*.

A college student who professed her faith in Christ and lost her life because of stating her belief in Him, had said: *Now I have given up everything else. I have found it to be the only way to really know Christ and to experience the mighty power that brought Him back to life again, and to find out what it means to suffer and die with Him.*

So, whatever it takes, I want to live in the newness of life of those who are alive from the dead; Cassie Bernall, 17, Columbine martyr.

A fellow student also declared: *I have no more personal friends at school. But I am not going to apologize for speaking the name of Jesus. I am not going to justify my faith to them, and I am not going to hide the light that God has shown me. If I have to sacrifice everything, I will. I will take it.*

If my friends have to become my enemies, for me to be with my best Friend, Jesus, then that’s fine with me—Rachel Scott, 17, Columbine martyr.

Now Is the Time to make a commitment or a re-commitment to ask Jesus to really be the Lord and Master of our life! We are to tolerate no com-

promises; no going back to old attitudes and desires; and totally following our Savior! Matthew 4:19 “*Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.*”

As we follow *Him*, others can follow *our* example of faith—thereby making a *difference* in someone’s life.

The OT prophet offered this challenge to the people 1 Kings 18:21 “*How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.*” *The Time has Come* to follow the Lord—*not* the world.

Jesus told us to *forsake* all and *follow* Him Luke 14:33—if we want to be His disciple. The people did *not* answer the prophet; but *silence* is an *answer*—their *indecision* meant *no* decision to follow God’s plan of trust!

The lyrics of an old CW song says: *Mama tried; Mama tried to raise me better, but her pleading I denied; That leaves only me to blame, ‘cause Mama tried!*

Everyone makes a decision—either to accept the Truth and live it; or to reject that Truth and lose salvation. We began with a sin nature, so the default decision is the wrong one and heading to the wrong destination.

If we have been fortunate enough to have godly parents who *raised* us in the ways of the Lord; who *taught* us how to treat others in a Christ-like way; who spent much time on their *knees* praying for the salvation of our *soul*, we can thank God over and over.

Let us never *deny* our *faith* in God—the same kind of faith *they* showed us by a personal example—***The Time has Come to do that!***



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