

An Unfinished Life Part 1

“Human life is a struggle, isn’t it? It’s a life sentence to hard labor. Like field hands longing for quitting time and working stiffly with nothing to hope for but payday, I’m given a life that meanders and goes nowhere— months of aimlessness, nights of misery! I go to bed and think, ‘How long till I can get up?’ I toss and turn as the night drags on—and I’m fed up! I’m covered with maggots and scabs. My skin gets scaly and hard, then oozes with pus. My days come and go swifter than the click of knitting needles, and then the yarn runs out—an unfinished life! **Job 7:1-6 (MSG)**

Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct. Those who are taught the word of God should provide for their teachers, sharing all good things with them. Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith. **Galatians 6:4-10 (NLT)**

The Principle Of Time And Timing: The Quality Of Our Work Based On Both Opportunity And Longevity.

- **Time** – Has to do with productivity.

Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct. **Galatians 6:4-5 (NLT)**

- a) Just putting in time does not equal productivity.

*Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. **Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,** knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.* **Colossians 3:22-24 (ESV)**

- b) In God’s economy productivity is:

- **How** you work – v22b *not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers...*
- **Why** you work – v22b – 23 *but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. 23 **Whatever you do, work heartily...***
- **Whom** you work for – v23b *as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ.***

So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NLT)**

Those who gather crops on time are wise, but those who sleep through the harvest are a disgrace. **Proverbs 10:5 (NCV)**

- c) God will ultimately reward our productivity.

*Those who are taught the word of God should provide for their teachers, sharing all good things with them. **Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.** Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.* **Galatians 6:6-8 (NLT)**

Spend time with the wise and you will become wise, but the friends of fools will suffer. **Proverbs 13:20 (NCV)**

If you are lazy and sleep your time away, you will starve. **Proverbs 19:15 (CEV)**

- **Timing** – Has to do with opportunity.

Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith. **Galatians 6:10 (NLT)**

Timely advice is lovely, like golden apples in a silver basket. **Proverbs 25:11 (NLT)**

*Everyone enjoys a fitting reply; **it is wonderful to say the right thing at the right time!*** **Proverbs 15:23 (NLT)**

To Get Timing Right:

a) I must understand God's will for my life.

*Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, **making the best use of the time**, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, **but understand what the will of the Lord is.*** **Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)**

b) I need to pray for the right timing.

*And don't forget to pray for me. **Pray that I'll know what to say and have the courage to say it at the right time**, telling the mystery to one and all, the Message that I, jailbird preacher that I am, am responsible for getting out.* **Ephesians 6:19-20 (MSG)**

Don't waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. It's a scandal when people waste their lives on things they must do in the darkness where no one will see. Rip the cover off those frauds and see how attractive they look in the light of Christ. Wake up from your sleep, Climb out of your coffins; Christ will show you the light! **So watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times!** **Ephesians 5:11-16 (MSG)**

*Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; **rather, train yourself to be godly.*** For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. **1 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV)**