

Good News From Chardon

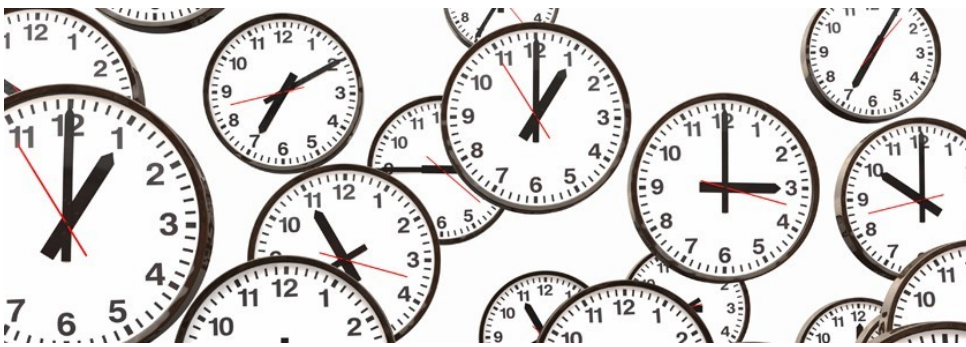
December 6, 2020
Issue 49



128 Maple Ave. 440-286-5505

The Value of Time

By Ron Bartanen



Every turn of a calendar-page and every tick of a clock tells us that what has passed we will never undo, and we are responsible for what we have now. I have heard time described as “a section cut from the great circle of eternity.” We should view time as a priceless gift from God. As we soon go into the New Year of 2021, we should remind ourselves of time’s value. Once past, it can never be retrieved. It is ours now, but whether it will be ours one moment from now is in God’s hands. We have no binding claim upon time.

The apostle Paul spoke of the value of time when he spoke of “redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). Time is not just the accumulation of seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years, but everything that time offers to us, including opportunities and privileges, and Paul, by inspiration, urges us to redeem such. Paul uses the language of the market-place. In the days, and even weeks, prior to Christmas, shoppers have been fervently in search of bargains, taking advantage of sales in stores and online, searching for best-buys. Should we be any less fervent in the pursuit of spiritual blessings that God has graciously made available to us?

One opportunity that is overlooked by too many is the most valuable of all—the opportunity time offers us for salvation. Paul, in 2 Corinthians 6:2, reminds us, “Now is the accepted time: behold, now is the day of salvation.” Here is truly the “best buy” of all—salvation, a gift already paid for with the blood of Christ, as Peter reminds Christians: of the fact that we are redeemed (purchased) “with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:18-19).

The opportunity of salvation is ours as God’s gift to man, but the acceptance of this gift rests with us. As Paul said, “Now is the accepted time... day of salvation,” but multitudes pass by this priceless gift as they seek the pleasures and treasures that will one day be no more. May all of us be reminded, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passes away, and the lust thereof: but he that does the will of God abides forever” (1 John 2:16-17). As we conclude the present year, and enter into the New Year, may we accept the gift that abides forever, “redeeming the time.”

Ronald Bartanen preaches for Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL

Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Mark

Opening Hymn:

386—I’ll Be Satisfied

Opening Prayer: Dale
Hymn:

495—We Have an Anchor

Scripture Reading: Ryan

Hymn:

295—In Remembrance

Lord’s Supper: Ray

Hymn:

231—Faith Is The Victory

Sermon: Mark

Invitation Hymn:

39—Is Thy Heart Right with God

Closing Hymn:

406—Savior Grant Me Rest and Peace

Closing Prayer: Larry

PRAYER LIST

- *Beverly was hospitalized last week.
- *Ron and Bonnie and their family. They are in Arkansas.
- *Margaret and Albert.
- *Wanda and her family.
- *Kathy and her friends.
- *Zarna Several members of her family in India have the virus.
- *Larry and Ruth.
- *Pat and Ron and their daughters.
- *Juanita's sister Betty.
- *Mary and her family.
- *Robert and Sara
- *Juanita and her family. Her daughter Debbie's daughter has COVID.
- *Ray and Barbara
- *Dale and his family.
- *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven. Ray is in self quarantine
- *Myron & Carole
- *Mark and his family.
- *Our congregation
- *Our Veterans
- *Our nation and the world

CALENDAR

- Dec. 6—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Mark
- Dec. 6—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale
- Dec. 9—(b.) Megan
- Dec. 9—(b.) Richard
- Dec. 13—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Tom
- Dec. 13—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale

Walk In Light

Scripture Reference: Ephesians 5:8-20

ACCEPTABLE	ALWAYS	ANOTHER	BECAUSE
CHRIST	CIRCUMSPECTLY	DARKNESS	DISSIPATION
EXPOSED	FATHER	FELLOWSHIP	FILLED
FINDING	FOOLS	GOODNESS	MAKING
MANIFEST	MELODY	PSALMS	RATHER
REDEEMING	RIGHTEOUSNESS	SECRET	SHAMEFUL
SINGING	SPEAKING	SUBMITTING	THANKS
THEREFORE	THINGS	UNDERSTAND	UNFRUITFUL
UNWISE	WHATEVER		

C R A F E L L O W S H I P F O F R S
H I Y C O W S U E U S G W E I R P M
R G R E C L H X F E D O N L N E C A
I H E C O E P A C T S A L I A D A K
S T R O U O P R T S I E R K D K N I
T E F E S M E T E E D U I K S N R N
S O B E L T S N A I V N R S N E I G
B U D A U U D P S B G E U F H E T F
E S N O L O F S E S L B R T N W S R
C N Y O O W I E M C M E A R U U A S
A E A G R P A L M I T F E E L T I G
U S G H A N A Y T A T L I D H H N N
S S T T O S H T S E H L Y E O I R I
E D I T P W I D N A T S R E D N U G
A O H M A N I F E S T L K M A G S N
N E C H G S K N A H T I L I D S R I
R E N O E R O F E R E H T N F L I S
G M E L O D Y E S I W N U G H T R X

Hidden Message: _____

Answer to Puzzle: They will give an account
to Him who is ready to judge the living and
the dead.

"Three o'clock is always too late or too early for anything you want to do."

SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom);
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E-mail: church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com
Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com
Like us on FaceBook