The Days Are Evil

Ken Chapman · Ephesians 5:15–16

INTRODUCTION

- Number one is that it was a reminder that there is evil in this world.
- Yes, there's evil in the world, but there's also a lot of good. And love still abides.
- Paul's instructions, stronger than advice, his instructions to Christians who live in a godless world, and for whom time flies.

1 The Days Are Evil

Ephesians 5:8–11; Proverbs 27:1

- One sense in which the days are evil are in the sense that the calendar and the clock are against us.
- Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.
- Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.
- The days are evil because far too often they're just full of evil. Evilness and wickedness abounds around us.

2 Honestly Evaluate Our Use of Time

- The Christian needs to honestly evaluate our use of time.
- What did I do with my time last week? And I think you could probably do three categories. Keep it simple good, bad, and neutral.
- Lord, teach us to number our days. I don't know if he meant that literally, but let's do it literally.

3 Feel a Sense of Urgency in Life

James 4:13–17

- We need to feel a sense of urgency in life.
- For what is your life? It's even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.
- Instead, you ought to say, if the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.
- Life is brief, and we need to understand the urgency of it at every phase of our life.
- We need to live every day as if that term paper is due tomorrow.

4 Decide What Needs to Go

Romans 14:12

- I hope we can all agree about it first that the bad needs to go.
- Decide what needs to go in my life. To make some sometimes tough choices. And Jesus demands those tough choices.
- So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.
- On the day of judgment, will I have to give an account of myself and my time before God.

5 Decide What Truly Matters and Make Time

- Schedule time, find time, make time for what truly matters.
- We have time. It's just what we're going to do with that time.
- Isn't that really maybe Paul's point when he says redeem the time? Buying up, using up the opportunities that we have.

6 Focus on the Good Things of Life

Philippians 4:8

- Making the best use of our time is by using our time for goodness. And focusing our eyes upon the goodness.
- Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, think on these things.
- What a good use of our time to do good things, and to spend much of our time thinking on these good things.

THE CHALLENGE

Make the decision to give your life, including your time, to God and His noble purposes. Can we help you in that pursuit? Would you give your life and your time to Christ this morning?

MY NOTES