

## **Kairos – No Opportunity Wasted**

Ephesians 5:14-18 - <sup>14</sup> Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light. <sup>15</sup> See then that you walk <sup>[a]</sup>circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

Intro: “All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.” – J.R.R. Tolkien

The ancient Greeks had two different words for the concept of time — “chronos” and “kairos”. The word “chronos” (you probably recognize this one as the root for the English words “chronological” and “chronicle”) refers to measured, ticking, quantitative time. Chronos is the forward propelling time that we measure with clocks, on watches, and by the evolutionary phases of the moon. But time does not end there.

The Greeks’ second word for time is “kairos” — lesser known but no less important. “Kairos” is what many philosophers and mystics would refer to as “deep time”. When you find yourself in kairos time, you completely lose track of chronos time. A state of flow is activated, and it cannot be measured but only experienced.

Where Chronos is quantitative, kairos is qualitative. It measures moments, not seconds.

### **Chronos:**

The Greeks liked to personify just about everything. You’re probably familiar with the personification of Chronos: just think of old Father Time. A weary, bent-backed old man with a long grey beard, carrying a scythe and an hourglass. His resemblance to the Grim Reaper is not accidental.

Chronos, or Saturn to the Romans, is the stuff that kills you. It takes away everything you have and then it eats you too. According to Roman myth, Saturn ate each of his sons the moment after they were born.

### **Kairos:**

In early excavation of ancient Greece they uncovered a statue with the greek name kairos. This word in greek means opportunity. This statue was of a young man who was naked with long hair that covered his face...and he was bald in the back. On the base of the statue was written:

1. What is your name? - my name is opportunity.
2. Why does hair cover your face? - so i am not recognized at first glance.

3. Why is the back of your head bald? - so i can not be taken hold of once i pass by.
4. Why are you standing on your tiptoes with wings on your feet? - because i am running and i pass by quickly.

At the entrance to the greek olympic stadium was two altars...one was called the altar of games....the other was the altar of opportunity.

In rhetoric kairos is "a passing instant when an opening appears which must be driven through with force if success is to be achieved." Life is made up of defining moments. Doors of opportunity

### **Back to Chronos...**

The only thing that every human being on earth has in common is TIME.

Who you are and what you become is determined by how you use your TIME.

Time cannot be stopped it can only be stewarded.

- Life is time
- Life is defined as time
- Life is measured in time
- Life is lived out in time
- Life is qualified and quantified by time
- The passing of time is the passing of life
- Life stops when time stops

Time is the measure of space

Time is just a piece of eternity in measure

Time exist for the purposes of redemption

- Jesus is a redemption freak.

### **Keys about time:**

1. Time has maturity
  - Ecclesiastes 3:10-12 - I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. <sup>11</sup> He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that <sup>(B)</sup>no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.
2. Time has limitations

- Job 14:5-7 (NLT) - You have decided the length of our lives. You know how many months we will live...

### 3. Maximize your time

- Psalm 39:4 (NLT) - "Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered - how fleeting my life is.

- Psalm 90:12 - <sup>12</sup> So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Redeeming the time: Ephesians 5 gives us a guideline to steward time...

- Walk in purpose
- Walk in wisdom
- Walk in the Will of god

But what happens if we miss our Kairos moments?

- God does not have a plan for your life, He has a purpose for your life. But he does have many plans to get you to your purpose.
  - Proverbs 19:21 - Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.
  - Jeremiah 29:11??? – "Plans" = Hebrew word for intention / purpose
- The "Kairos" purpose of God is outside of time. It isn't restricted or controlled by time.

I really want you to get this — you cannot mess up God's purpose for your life! He has many plans to get you to your purpose. So today, let's take the high stakes out of the equation of our destinies, take the weight of the world off of our shoulders, and take a deep breath under the comfort of the Prince of Peace.

He's not surprised that your life has not been perfect. Perfection was never the plan! And guess what? Whatever decisions you're facing today, He is with you in them and He's championing you into the incredible purpose He has set before you. I want to encourage you that no matter where you're at in your journey or what crossroads you perceive to be in front of you, keep moving forward and pressing into Him.