

THE TIME IS SHORT
Jeremiah 7:23, I Corinthians 7:29-31

Introduction:

1. Time is precious. I feel guilty when it's wasted...THE TIME IS SHORT.
2. The Return of Christ is very near . . . time is short for:
 - a) suffering
 - b) sorrow (illustration: 6 year old electrocuted)
 - c) separation
 - d) service
 - e) soul winning
 - f) salvation
3. TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

I. THERE MUST BE A TIME FOR LISTENING.

- A. The Bible is filled with men listening to God.
 1. Moses listening at the burning bush.
 2. Joshua listening and God directing.
 3. David listening as God whispered sweet songs in his ears.
 4. Elijah listening as God prepares for revival on Mt. Carmel.
 5. Little Samuel listening alone in the night.
 6. Ezekiel listening as God said, "***Stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.***"
- B. There are many things that came from listening.
 1. Salvation is one result.
Illustration: My testimony.
 2. If you are without Christ as Saviour . . . listen.
 3. After salvation there is a call to service.
Illustration: My testimony.
 4. Is God calling you right now?
 - a. Sunday School teacher
 - b. Preacher
 - c. Missionary
 - d. Deacon
 - e. Christian service . . . tithing, faithfulness, visitation.
- C. Have you come to the point where you have listened to God and completely surrendered to Him?

II. THERE MUST BE A TIME FOR OBEYING

(“***...to obey is better than sacrifice.***”)

(“***Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you.***”)

- A. It is imperative that you answer and obey the call of God and do what He wants you to do.
 1. Called to preach . . . OBEY.
Illustration: GG called but lost voice.
 2. Called to be missionary . . . OBEY (Illustration: Jonah)
 3. Called to be a deacon . . . OBEY.
 4. Called to be a teacher . . . OBEY.
 5. Called to sing . . . OBEY.

6. Dealing with you about your Christian service . . . OBEY.
 - a. Tithing . . . OBEY.
 - b. Faithfulness . . . OBEY.
 - c. Visitation and soul winning . . . OBEY.

Illustration: Little lady soul winner dies. Sword 9977

- B. The time to obey is now . . . The time is short.

III. THERE MUST BE A TIME OF REPORTING.

Romans 14:12 “*So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*”

- A. The time is fast approaching when you will have to stand before God to give an account.
 1. Yes, you will give an account of yourself, what you have done and what you have not done.

Scripture: **I Corinthians 3:13-15**

Scripture: **Revelation 22:12** “*And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.*”

2. There is no way you can escape that reporting.
- B. In order to have a good report answer God's call right now.
 1. Don't do it grudgingly, but willingly governed by love.

Scripture: **I Corinthians 9:17** “*For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward . . .*”

2. Do it unselfishly.

3. Do it faithfully.

Matthew 25:21 “*. . . Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . .*”

Illustration: “I am thirsty too.” Sword 9977

Conclusion:

1. The time is short.
2. Are you listening?
3. Are you obeying?
4. Are you ready to report?

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