

These Perilous Times

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Budgeting our Time for God's Service

Some Christians believe that their time belongs to Jesus only on the holy Sabbath day, {partially true} and that the other six days belong to them exclusively. Many of us seem to forget that **Jesus gave us time.**

He is the progenitor, creator, and originator of time—that means our time belongs to Him exclusively!

Yes, we must work to earn a living. Yes, we must sleep to rejuvenate our bodies. And there is family time to stay lovingly, socially, and intimately connected with loved ones. But one thing God's people must never do is waste time on trivial pursuits for self-gratification, i.e., _____. You fill in the blank.

Most of us are like economists when it comes to budgeting our bank accounts—we dot every “I,” and cross every “T.” How should we apply spiritual economy when budgeting our time accounts?

We need to be just as frugal with our time as we are with our finances. Jesus wants us to give our all to further His kingdom! Have I mentioned saints, that we are engaged in a spiritual war? You know, the war we call the great controversy!

What does this mean for us?

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

One way we can demonstrate how much we appreciate the time the Lord has “loaned” us, is by doing everything He has given us to do with thy might, during the time in which we are allotted to do it. Our life, and the lives of others, depend on it!

Do it the same as though Jesus Himself was physically standing by our side. ¹

A lesson from the “Widow’s Mites”

“... Verily I say unto you, that **this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.**” Mark 12:43, 44

What lessons should we take from the words of our Savior concerning the story of the poor widow and her contribution to the treasury?

Jesus states that many rich cast much into the treasury. The widow cast in two mites, {which = 1/128 of a day’s wages}. ² ³ That’s all the finances she had in the world—her life savings.

¹ See Ecclesiastes. 9:10

² Mark 12:38-42

³ The New Strong’s Concordance, “New Testament Monies,” Nashville/Atlanta/London/Vancouver, 1990.

This story is about the benevolent giving of one poor, exploited widow. It's about our quality giving for the Lord's service, even of our time!!! Not everyone has the same amount of money but everyone has the same amount of time that makes up a 24-hour day! Jesus is not interested in our leftovers.

“... In the sight of Heaven it is not really the size of a gift that counts, but the motive that prompts it. Heaven is interested only in the amount of love and devotion the gift represents, not its' monetary Value...,”⁴ {Emphasis provided}.



⁴ SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 5, pp. 648, 649.