

NEW YEARS EVE MORNING 1995

ISAIAH 46:9-10

TAPE #JH -

TITLE:

TIME - FRIEND OR FOE

INTRODUCTION: *Reading of the Topic*

ISAIAH 46:9-10

Isaiah 46:9-10

Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, :10 Declaring the end... from the beginning, and from ancient times... things that have not yet been done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.'

*Our Brain is an Amazing Biological Machines
all through life your brain is filing Sights to Sounds to Smells*

*Assembling a montage of Images that create a large portion of the
knowledge that you posses.*

Ps 139:14

*I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works,
and that my soul knows very well.*

*SIGHT the eye under the control of the brain captures the light and images within view,
then sends the data to the brain for developing and is stored in memory*

*SMELL the sensories pick up aromas that become attached to micro-particles in the air
and travel inside your nose which then the data is sent to the brain for processing and is
stored in memory.*

*SOUND is a transmitted vibration through air, water or a solid. your ear drum and
friends respond to the vibes and then sends the data to the brain to be arranged and is
stored in memory*

Reruns or Replays of sights - sounds - smells

*will trigger the memory banks to release the image that is associated
with that sense...*

MEMORY MOMENTS (*a timeline in the mind*)
(*watch how fast your memory can recall the place you were at when you heard the news*)

You Are There...
the moment you heard the news that...

*The Space Shuttle Challenger Explodes (1986) • John Lennon shot to death (1980)
Mount Saint Helen's Erupts (1980) • President Kennedy was shot (1963)
Operation desert storm (1990) • Neal Armstrong walks on the Moon (1969)*

MARCH 30, 1981
I WAS AT WORK WHEN PRESIDENT REAGEN WAS SHOT

Remember When...

The Apollo 13 Drama (1970) • John Travolta in "Saturday Night Fever (1977)

This being the end of the Year...
It's Natural for us to Take Inventory of "Time"
Past, Present, Future

"Time is an education in Eternity!"

A famous quote FROM A PERSON WHO HAD ALL POWER
*the memorable words of Napoleon Bonaparte to his aide;
Go sir, gallop fast and remember, the world was created in six days, you can ask from
anything, but I cannot give you time"*

A famous quote FROM SOMEONE WHO HAD ALL WEALTH
*The last words of Queen Elizabeth I;
All my possessions I'll give... for one more moment of Time"*

A famous quote FROM A PERSON WHO HASN'T A CLUE
Mic Jagger or the beatles sings the song "Time is on my side - yes it is

GOD & TIME

Isaiah 46:10

Declaring the end... from the beginning, and from ancient times... Things that have not yet been done.

John 14:29

"And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe.

Ps 90:4

For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night.

2 Pet 3:8

do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

THE YEAR, THAT WAS...

**ITS GONE FROM OUR HANDS, BUT IT'S BEEN PLACED
IN THE RECORD HALLS OF HEAVEN FOREVER**

- a.) *there have been painful events, for some of us - over the year*
- b.) *there have been joyful events, for some of us - over the year*
- c.) *there have been mixed events, for all of us - over the year*

THERE IS A SENSE OF DELIVERANCE - I MADE IT!

The Point Is, That God was in your past regardless of any or all of the above

BOSNIA & WAR

we send young men to war because in their hearts & minds
there is "an element of eternity" - they feel and view
themselves as invisible

SOME OF THE OTHER TRICKS THAT TIME PLAYS UPON US.

1. *When you're very young - time is an enemy to you*
2. *When you're a teen - time confusing to you*
3. *When you're a young adult - time is seemingly infinite to you*
4. *When you're a middle-aged adult - time is fleeting to you*
5. *When you're senior in age - time is precious to you*
6. *When you're elderly - once again, time becomes your enemy...*
By reason of pain, idleness, sleeplessness, loneliness

Ps 90:9-12

For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; we finish our years like a sigh. 10 The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.... 12 So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Teach Us to Number...

- ~ If you're 25 yrs. & live to be 70, you have: 2,340 weeks left. or 540 mo.
- ~ If you're 35 yrs. & live to be 70, you have: 1,820 weeks left. or 420 mo.
- ~ If you're 45 yrs. & live to be 70, you have: 1,300 weeks left. or 300 mo.
- ~ If you're 55 yrs. & live to be 70, you have: 780 weeks left. or 180 mo.
- ~ If you're 65 yrs. & live to be 70, you have: 260 weeks left. or 60 mo.

And If You're 70 Years Or Over... You are a living testimony to the enduring Grace of God but... according to data from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, if you have not yet received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, the likelihood of you doing so is less than 3% over the age of 70!

(IN OTHER WORDS, TIME IS RUNNING OUT)

Look Back over the Year,
Ask Yourself These Questions...

1. *Have I Grown as a Christian this Year ?*

a testing ground for Christian growth
(needed for test: 1 hammer & 1 thumb)

2. *Has My Life been used by God this Year ?*

Over the past year you've had opportunity
to make yourself available to Jesus
- in service to him - in defense of Him - in witnessing for Him

3. *What Changes have Taken place in Me ?*

Attitudes & Understandings & Perceptions
I'm thinking differently, reasonably, with wisdom

#2 *The Importance of TIME - that now is*

Gen 1:14

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;

- *Time Is Renewed For Us* *Morning By Morning*
- *Time Is Renewed For Us* *Month By Month*
- *Time Is Renewed For Us* *Season By Season*

The Geese are all over the morning & evening Skies
saying seasons change - time changes

**AT NEW YEARS,
WE EXPERIENCE A STRANGE RENEWAL OF HOPE**
#1 because the Past was survived, #2 the present is "Focused on what can be
#3 the future is before us, unwritten, yet unseen, open

That should always be the attitude
that the Christian has

**WE SHOULD EXPERIENCE RENEWAL OF HOPE -
CONTINUALLY!**

because #1 the Past was survived, #2 the present is "Focused" on the future
#3 the future is unwritten, yet unseen, open to influence and opportunity...

Phil 4:13

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Daniel 11:32b

...but the people who know their God shall be strong.... and will carry out great exploits.

DO YOU KNOW HIM LIKE THAT, THIS, LIKE NOW ?

Looking Around & Within,
Ask Yourself These Questions...

1.) Am I willing to yield myself completely to God

letting Him take all of you - to do all that he
wants to do with you.

somebody wants you - it's God!!!

US News & World Report dec. 31, 1995

Billy Graham believes that the United States is will experience a great spiritual awaken, millions will turn to the Bible!

2.) *what are you doing now, positioned for growth ?*
the year will have all of it's demands - who or what will be first ?

**You, Seasoned Christians
are in Danger of letting down the guard & backing off..**

Beware of Good Reasons & Excuses

Looking at Your Present Position

- a.) there are **painful** events, for some of us - right now
- b.) there are **joyful** events, for some of us - right now
- c.) there are **mixed** events, for all of us - right now

The Point Is, That God *is in your present situation any or all of the above is happen now*

The Rose Parade

for hundreds, thousands of hours people have been pouring their lives into a perfect example & model of how Time unfolds...

*Rushing to a future moment, Waiting for the event to happen now,
Remembering - that it will be for just a day, a matter of hours - History*

(THAT'S MAN - RUSHING, WAITING, REMEMBERING - HISTORY)

But consider HIS-story

*He's viewing it from above, looking down upon it all, seeing the end
from the beginning, the beginning from the end,*

*all of the parades past, present & future is before Him Now!
To God, Hitler is invading Austria, Noah is building the Arc,*

THERE IS A SENSE OF ENDURANCE - I AM MAKING IT!

*that what you have gone through & what you are going through is a promise
that you will make it through now and you will make it through when...*

what God has brought you through is a promise.....

Eph 5:15

*Be very careful, then, how you live-- not as unwise but as wise, :16 redeeming the time
(making the most of every opportunity, seizing every moment), because the days
are evil.*

Eph 5:15

*See then that you walk circumspectly, carefully, not as fools but as wise, :16 **redeeming**
(taking back) the time, because the days are evil. :17 Therefore do not be unwise, but
understand what the will of the Lord is. :18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is
dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,*

#3 The Importance of TIME - that is to Come

Looking Ahead to the Year

- a.) there will be **painful** events, for some of us
- b.) there will be **joyful** events, for some of us
- c.) there will be **mixed** events, for all of us

THERE IS A SENSE OF ASSURANCE - I WILL MAKE IT!

Lam 3

This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. 22 Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. 24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!"

The Point Is That God *will be in your future regardless any or all of the above transpiring*

Heb 13:5

... For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Rev 1:4

Grace to you and **peace** from Him (who is and who was and who is to come)

THE NOW

Rev 1:8

"I am **the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,**" says the Lord,
 "(who is and who was and who is to come)

THE PAST

Rev 4:8

"Holy, holy, holy, **lord God Almighty,** (who was and is and is to come)

THE FUTURE

Eph 1:10

when the times will have reached their fulfillment-- God will bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

(time will run out of time... all things in the time realm and all things outside the time realm-- God, the creator of time will say... "Times Up")

Isaiah 46:9-10

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Will You Survive The Future That Is To Come ?

JESUS WARNED US ABOUT TIME RUNNING OUT

Matt 24:50

"the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of,

JESUS WARNED US ABOUT INVESTING OUR TIME

Matt 25:15

"And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability, and immediately he went on a journey.

JESUS CALLED US TO BE WISE WITH WHAT TIME REMAINS

John 9:4

As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work.

Hosea 10:12

it is time to seek the LORD, till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

Rev 1:3

and Jesus say's the time is at hand.

The DeadLine;

1. A boundary line within a prison that prisoners cannot cross without being fatally wounded. (the Dead-Line)
2. A time limit set for the payment of a debt or the completion of an assignment.
3. A moment that arrives when there is no longer any more time remaining

My Time Theory - in a Crisis

2 Cor 6:2

"In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

IS TIME! A FRIEND OR FOE ?
It All Depends On How You Choose To Use It

To the believer
A Radical Re-Commitment is in Order !!!

To Non-Christian
A Radical Commitment is in Order !!!

Jer 8:20

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!"