

# Redeeming The Time

AT Snacks, December 31, 2023

Andy Taylor/Trinity Fellowship- Sayre, Oklahoma

I have found the Lord to be in a really, really talkative mood. He really wants to speak to the heart of man. He wants to talk to you.

It's really important that you read **Ephesians 5:15-21**, to get a good perspective on where we are going in the word.

*"See then that you walk circumspectly (not as fools) but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil"* (Eph 5:15-16). In 2023, we're seeing evil and darkness escalate at a level that we've never ever seen before, but something has been happening in this organism called the church, not just here but anywhere that they will let God do what He wants to do.

God won't override the leadership of a church. If the church, the leaders, determine to do it their way, God lets them do it their way. And we've never done that.

Millions are being saved around the world. What God is doing in this awakening is not just about those people being born again, it's also about people like us, who are already born again and are drawing deeper.

God is doing things in unorthodox ways. It's not unorthodox to Him, because He can do whatever He wants to do. He's not doing the same thing in every place. It's just the wisdom of God to do it differently everywhere. The only key for this is to press in and listen to what it is that the Lord is saying to us here.

I've done the best job I can do about getting you into a place where you want to hear what God is saying to you. I've worked hard at that.

As small as it may be at this moment, there's a bright, bright light coming in the midst of the darkest times the world has ever seen.

In ancient Babylon days, the humanism, sin, idolatry, all those things had gone to a level that had never been seen before, and now I believe that in the world today we're surpassing those things and behind everything is a really, really powerful, demonic presence.

But where there's light, darkness has to get out of the way. .. *"for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says, Awake you who sleep, arise from the dead in Christ and He will give you light"* (Eph 5:13-14).

Anytime you read the word or hear the word read, it's always good to say "Amen", because you received that as truth into your psyche, into your makeup and then you begin to make your decisions and reasoning based on what real truth is, rather than just what perceived truth or worldly truth might be.

Circumspectly means to live wisely, to live morally and cautiously, watching your step carefully, paying attention, being aware and being present. Living in the moment.

There's a lot of people in the body of Christ today I call suspended. They're suspended between the miraculous things God used to do, and the miraculous things that we believe He's going to do in the future. But if we're not careful, we'll be suspended between those things and miss what God is doing **in the now. Learn to be present in the now.**

Let's be aware, be present. Know what is going on. You have an unfair advantage to knowing what's going on in the world, because the spirit of God lives in you.

So heads up, the Kingdom of God is coming, with or without you. So I think you've made your choice, wise people who are redeeming the time. The clock is ticking, so let's make good use to redeem the time.

Here's the question; are you making good use of your time? How are you spending your time? Because there is not time to mess around. The awaking is going to happen with those who desire for God's will to be done.

Get obedient in these things, and start making adjustments in your own life. 2024 is going to go faster than 2023. If you've bought into that and are making adjustments in your life, you have the authority to release the awakening anywhere you go. Your prodigal sons and daughters, call them in to come back.

Are you doing anything to take care of yourself physically? We've started noticing, you know, the signs of getting a little older and we're going to have to start fighting back a little bit. I encourage you to fight back. Get more active physically, which not only helps your body but also helps you emotionally and spiritually.

A lot of you have gone through, and probably are going through, some real challenges right now. It's so easy to see the hand of the enemy and all those negative things with trials and challenges and problems, but start to look for God in those things. Because He's right there in the middle of those things. So that's a key.

Your life is only going to go as well as your spiritual life is going. So there are things that we can do to cooperate with the Lord to do that. I think the most important thing is to grow deeper in your relationship with the Father. It's the one thing that sets every other thing in proper perspective.

I've tried to do my best to help you grow deeper in your relationship with the Father. There's no substitute for that. Give Him time and spend some time with Him, with no agenda. When I sit down to spend time with the Lord, it's not so much the things that God says or the things that God gives me, but the prize to be had is His presence.

Learning to enjoy His presence, whether He has anything to say or not, has a transforming effect.

You've got to be desperate to hear the Lord. So I sat down with Him recently and it was a matter of seconds, and I immediately sensed the presence of the Lord. And I just said to Him, "*You always show up*". And in the still small voice, God said to me, "*Andy, I never show up. I'm always here. You're the one who shows up.*" So He's always there waiting to bless you with His presence.

I want to enjoy life more. Someone asked me a while back, *“what would you do differently?”* Right off the top, I wouldn’t worry as much. **This life was given to us as an adventure to enjoy.**

If I wasn’t a little uncomfortable, I’d be a little bit concerned if I were you right now. Here’s a great quote about the comfort zone. *“It’s where dreams go to die, where vision goes to die, where plans go to die and where goals and destinies go to die.”*

If we are going to fulfill our destiny, we are going to have some uncomfortable situations to deal with. I’m saying this to encourage you as you’re going through those kind of things right now. Congratulations!

These things that are trying us, that we’re going through, are meant and designed for God to draw you closer to Him so you can get more of Him, because He knows more of Him is what you need. Learning to enjoy His presence has a transforming effect.

I’ve been teaching you how to navigate the challenges of life. 2024 is shaping up to be a great year, and challenges will be greater than ever before. You are going to see things that you never dreamed of. We immediately go to the negative, but you’re going to start to see things in this building. You’re going to start to see things out there where God uses you.

There’s something very strong demonically going on, but there is nothing to be afraid of. As it really turns out, when you catch the essence of what the Bible says, especially the New Testament, grace and all those things, the enemy is so scared of you, he doesn’t know what to do. That’s why he is throwing everything he’s got in the toolbox at you, to get you distracted.

The more of these things we talk about you are putting to use, the better your life is going to be. Everything that God is doing is about your heart. And if you want to know what God is saying, He’s saying, *“I want access to your heart”*.

Are you continuing to invite the Lord to search your heart? Throw open the door on your heart and say, *“Lord, have at it!”*. It’s the key to living the best life.

What do you need to do to be at your very best in this season? What areas do you need to shore your life up in? Your finances, your prayer life or your spiritual life? Are you redeeming the time? Are you finding your place? So what do you need to do to be in the best place you can be?

The world has not see how powerful, how much light, how much peace, how much grace, and how much favor can be had by a group of people, no matter how small or how large, that buys into this.

The church is more powerful, more healthy as you find your place. If you say, well, where do I start? Look for an area where there needs to be help, and step in. You might find out in three to four months that in the nursery is not where you belong. But you might find out it is where you belong. Finding out how you’re not gifted is as important as finding out how you are gifted.

Every mature ministry started out as an immature ministry. Every ministry starts out making a lot of mistakes. We learn how to do better by making mistakes. But it seems like in the body of Christ, people are afraid to step out and make mistakes, afraid they’ll be disqualified or something like that. So I’m just saying, step up and step out, and you’re not going to get disqualified.

Lord, we say “yes” to what You’re doing on the planet that we see. We say “yes” to what You’re doing in our house here. We say “yes” to what You’re doing in each of us. We say “yes” to the part we know and kind of understand, but we also say “yes” to the part that we don’t even know about yet.