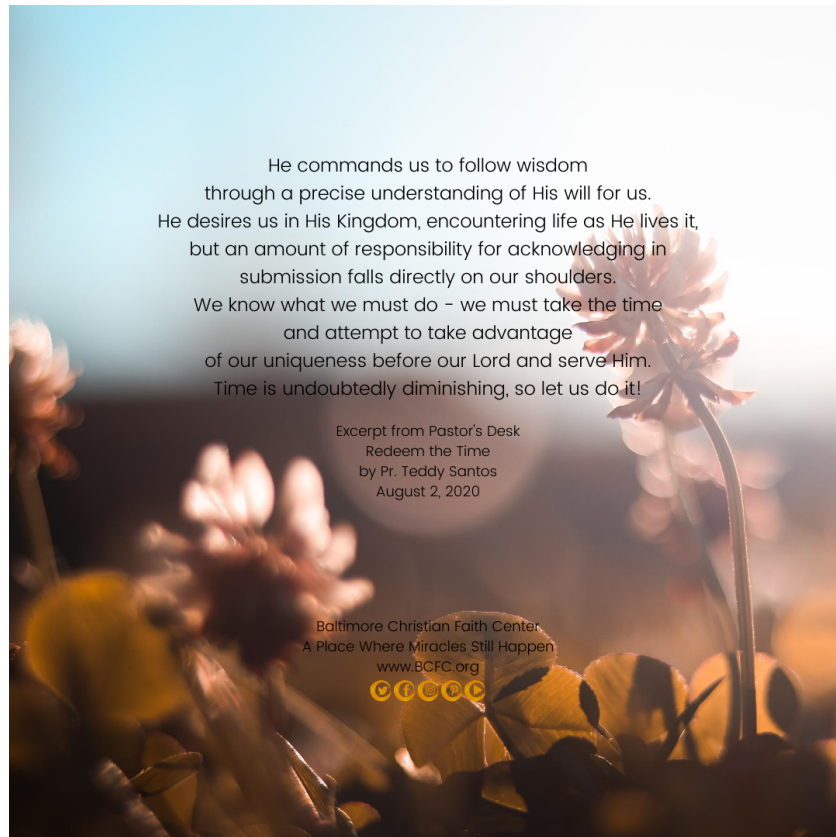


REDEEM THE TIME

Pastor's Desk – August 2, 2020



Ephesians 5:13-17 *But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. 14 Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." 15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

Redeem means "buy up an opportunity" or "to buy up for oneself." When correlated to "time," it suggests "to buy or take advantage of an opportunity." Since time is what we are dealing with here and inevitably passes on, we must make the most of each opportunity. If an occasion is missed, it cannot be recollected.

Verse 13 prompts us to know that God is intentionally exposing our sins to us for our continued good, so that we might partake life with Him in His

Kingdom. Hence, in verses 14-17, He compels us to wake up and take advantage of this, for if we persist in sin, we are as good as dead. But because He desires to save, He exposes our transgressions to us so that we can repent.

We must do our part in overcoming if we want to encounter the fullness of our redemption from sin. We must take advantage of His Spirit's great gift, utilizing every chance that comes our way to confront our flaws and drive on to maturity. He urges us not to let what has made us special to Him slide away from our grips.

Therefore, in verse 17 particularly, He commands us to follow wisdom through a precise understanding of His will for us. He desires us in His Kingdom, encountering life as He lives it, but an amount of responsibility for acknowledging in submission falls directly on our shoulders. We know what we must do - we must take the time and attempt to take advantage of our uniqueness before our Lord and serve Him. Time is undoubtedly diminishing, so let us do it!

At His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos