

BUYING TIME

When you buy something you remove it from wherever it was (on the internet, in a store, etc.) and put wherever you wish. Having paid a price for the item it now is yours to do with it whatever you desire. You own it.

Think of this—each of us has been given a lifetime of time, whether it be a short or a long one. How should we spend those hours, days and years

The apostle Paul answers that when he wrote “redeeming the time because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). The time in which we all live is evil. That does not mean everything or everybody is evil, but that the world is opposed to the true God and believers are surrounded by so many ideas, temptations, activities that pull him or her away from “understanding what the will of the Lord is” (verse 17).

What to do? Redeem the time. Redeeming something involves paying the price for it to remove it from self-centered use, then using time to learn and live the will of God.

In a twenty-four hour day can you buy 15 minutes to read the Bible? Or 10 minutes to pray specifically about the upcoming events of the day? Or a half hour to show love for one's neighbor? Or regular time to discipline your own body so that you will have the strength to help others.

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