

Elder Sharon A. Smith
Noonday Bible Study
September 8th, 2026

**“Don’t Delay”
“Walking in Wisdom and Purpose”**

Overcoming Procrastination

**“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
redeeming the time....” Ephesians 5:15-16 (NKJV)**

Lesson 1: Stop Waiting: “The Time is Now”

Key Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1; Ephesians 5:15-16

Focus: Recognizing the cost of procrastination

- Sometimes we keep waiting for the right time, when God is calling us to act with what we have right now.

Kingdom Principle:

- There is a season and a purpose for every assignment
- Tomorrow is not promised
- Procrastination can cause us to miss opportunities God placed before us.
- Wisdom teaches us to make the most of our time

Procrastination:

- Is the act of developing or postponing tasks that need to be done often because they feel boring, stressful, or unpleasant.
- The Bible does not use the modern word “procrastination”, but it directly addresses the concepts of laziness, delay, and failing to act.

Delay:

- The “Sluggard”, Proverbs 20:4, 26:14, 19:24; frequently warns against the “sluggard” a person who delays work, makes excuses, and chooses comfort over action.
- James 4:17, knowing the right thing to do and failing to do it is considered a sin.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

- God has set an appointed and a specific season for every want and activity in human life.
- Every human experience, event, and phase of life happens according to God’s deliberate, fixed timing.

Divine Order:

- Life is not random, God holds supreme control over the changing seasons of the world and individual lives.

Cyclical Rythm:

- Recognizing that a season has an appointed time brings peace, patience, and comfort during difficult or confusing periods.

Ephesians 5:15-16

- Commands Christians to live intentionally and wisely by making the most of every opportunity in a broken world.

(vs15)**“See then that ye walk circumspectly not as fools, but as wise.”**

- **Watch your step:** walk means your daily lifestyle and choices
- **Be Careful:** “look carefully” means to love with deep awareness and spiritual alertness, not carelessly like a fool.
- **Choose wisdom:** wisdom is God given insight. It helps you see life from God’s point of view and make good decisions.

(vs16)

“Redeeming the time, because the days are evil”

Buy Back Time: original Greek word for “making the most of” or “redeeming” means to buy back a precious item.

Seize the Moment: refers to using specific passing moments (kairos) for good rather than letting them slip away.

Purposeful Living: Instead of wasting hours on empty things, a wise person invests time in things that honor God and help others.

Why are the Days Evil?

- **Spiritual Darkness:** The surrounding culture is full of temptation, sin, and hostility toward God and His Will.
- **Urgency:** Life is short, and time does not return once it’s gone.
- **Shining a Light:** Because the world is dark, believers must act as lights using every open door to do good, speak truth, and live purely.

