

In Eph 5:16 we read that we are to 'Redeem the time, for the days are evil.' I remember when I was in grammar school we were graded on how well we used our time. An attempt was made there to teach us not to waste time, but I don't think that the lesson stuck very well.

Our attitude towards the passage of time is very interesting. Time seems like a large hill that peaks out at about age 20 or 21. Each of us are pushing a wheelbarrow whose rotating wheel represents the passage of time. Until we are about 20 it is all steeply uphill. For instance, when we are 12, we can't wait to be 13 and be a teenager. When we are 15, we can't wait to be 16 so that we can get our driver's license. When we are 17, we can't wait until we graduate from high school. It seems that throughout these years the days drag by because of our constant wishing to be older.

After we hit the top of the hill and begin the downhill slope, we may still rush through our days until we get to the weekend. But as each birthday passes we feel the overall sense of time passing us much too quickly. All of a sudden we don't want to be any older. Our little wheelbarrow is now pulling us along, going faster and faster. The days seem like just a blur, like the spokes of the spinning wheelbarrow's wheel.

How can we feel that we are not losing control over it all? One thing that hurts us so much is our attitude of rushing through the week so that we can enjoy the weekend, as though the other days were just in our way. The weekdays are very valuable, too, if we will only have the right attitude.

We must, I think, have a definite purpose in life. Then we must try to make each day count something towards that goal. If we do this, we will not feel like the weekdays are wasted.

I can remember many times as a kid cutting a hole in the top of an orange that I could suck the juice out of it. I loved orange juice, and would squeeze that orange until every last drop had been tasted. Likewise we must try to squeeze the most out of every day if we are to taste the full flavor of life. Let's make the best use of every minute. Relax, and have fun, but every day achieve something towards your lifetime goal so that you will not feel that the day was wasted. We don't have that many to waste.

It seems that in our analogy of the hill of time we must add that the hill is extremely narrow, and a little bit treacherous. We can fall off to disaster at any point. We may not have tomorrow so make today count!