

Living in Evil Days

“Making the most of your time, because the days are evil.”

– Ephesians 5:16 –

In 1842 Robert Murray M’Cheyne, pastor of St. Peter’s Church in Dundee, Scotland, wrote a pastoral letter to an individual who was an unbeliever. The following is an excerpt from his letter:

“I was reading this morning (Luke 2:29), what old Simeon said when he got the child Jesus into his arms: ‘Now let Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word, for my eyes have seen Thy salvation.’ If you get a firm hold of the Lord Jesus, you will be able to say the same.... God is leading you to the very spot where the Redeemer is; a lowly, despised, spit-upon, crucified Savior. Can this be the Savior of the world? Yes, dear soul; kneel down and call Him your Redeemer. He dies for such as you and me.”

M’Cheyne lived unselfishly, caring for the spiritual welfare of both believers and unbelievers. Because of poor health, he died at age twenty-nine after ministering a short seven and a half years. His spiritual legacy of passionate love for the Lord and pastoral love for people continues to serve as an inspiring example for believers today.

M’Cheyne’s life illustrates what the apostle Paul was saying to the Ephesians believers: make the most of your time. In Ephesians 5:16 the Greek term translated “making the most of” means “buy up for yourself.” That doesn’t mean

you're to hoard your time for your own use; rather, you're to buy up for yourself time that will give God glory. Every day brings new opportunities to be seized for God – opportunities for good, for righteousness, for holiness.

Like M'Cheyne, buy up opportunities daily for God's glory and the good of others. Be committed to minister to the spiritual needs of believers and unbelievers. By doing so, you will make your time, talents, and resources count for eternity.

Suggested prayer:

“Lord, teach us that time is only redeemed from triviality when it is seen to be the preparation for eternity, and earth is never so fair as when we discern and use it as the vestibule of heaven.”

– Article submitted by Chuck Wetzel, 04.27.20