

More on Mediocrity

by Wayne Goff

"The tragedy of life is often not in our failure, but rather in our complacency; not in our doing too much, but rather in our doing too little; not in our living above our ability, but rather in our living below our capacities." — Benjamin E. Mays

Solomon and the Lord would concur with the above sentiment. Solomon wrote: *"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going"* (Ecclesiastes 9:10). The Lord said through the apostle Paul, *"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is"* (Ephesians 5:15-17).

Too many of us are content with "getting by." We do not "give of our best to the Master," and sometimes it is because we have cultivated too many "thorns" (hindrances) in our lives. We live in a wonderful age of technology which has provided us with more information, opportunities, and choices than we could ever make in a lifetime! It behooves us even more today to *"redeem the time"* — take advantage of our opportunities, and that requires making some sound choices. Naturally, we cannot excel in **everything**, but we can excel in **something**!

Jesus has told us to *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness"* (Matthew 6:33). We ignore that instruction to our own spiritual destruction! Have you ever stopped to wonder about the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)? They have been **dead** for about 2,000 years now, and one is spending an eternity full of regret while the other is enjoying endless bliss! Does **time** mean anything to them in their present reality? Are those in *"torment"* miserably bored with nothing to do but look back on their earthly life? Does the rich man ever wonder, "If only I had served God instead, ..."?

In serving the Lord, let each of us choose to give the **best** we have to God, of our time, our talents, our energy, our love and our support. *"And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God"* (Philippians 1:9-11).

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