

# Making The Best Use of Our Time

Ephesians 5:15-21

Queen Elizabeth I – (1558-1603)

*“All my possessions for a moment of time.”*



TIME – April 1989

Cover Story: ***“How America Has Run Out Of Time”***



## Making The Best Use of Our Time

Paul's Warning:

***Be very careful how you are using your time.***

***Psalm 90:12 [ESV] - So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. (Moses)***

**Ephesians 5:15-21 -Two parts:**

1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live
2. A Command: Be Filled with the Spirit



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***Ephesians 5:15-16 [ESV] - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.***

1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live

*Ephesians 4:1 [ESV] - I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.*

*Ephesians 5:16 [ESV] – ...making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.*



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***a. Not as unwise but as wise people  
(v.15b)***

***1 Corinthians 3:19 [NIV] - For the wisdom  
of this world is foolishness in God's  
sight.***

**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***a. Not as unwise but as wise people  
(v.15b)***

***Ephesians 1:17 [NIV] - I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.***



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***a. Not as unwise but as wise people  
(v.15b)***

***James 1:5 [NIV] - If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.***



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***b. Not foolishly but with understanding  
(v.17)***

***Ephesians 5:17 [ESV] – Therefore do not  
be foolish, but understand what the will  
of the Lord is.***

**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***b. Not foolishly but with understanding  
(v.17)***

***1 Thessalonians 4:3 [ESV] - For this is  
the will of God, your sanctification***



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***b. Not foolishly but with understanding  
(v.17)***

***1 Timothy 2:3–4 [ESV] - <sup>3</sup> This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.***

**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***b. Not foolishly but with understanding  
(v.17)***

***Micah 6:8 [ESV] - He has told you, O man,  
what is good; and what does the Lord  
require of you but to do justice, and to  
love kindness, and to walk humbly with  
your God?***



**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***b. Not foolishly but with understanding  
(v.17)***

***1 Thessalonians 5:18 [ESV] - ...give  
thanks in all circumstances; for this is  
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.***

**1. A Warning: Be Careful How You Live**

***c. Not to be taken to drunkenness but be filled with the Spirit of God (v.18)***

***Ephesians 5:18 [ESV] - And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.***



## 2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit

*“The intent [of this command] is that the person should be characterized by wisdom and live in tune with God’s Spirit...the Holy Spirit is the controlling influence motivating and directing the lives of believers”*

*(Snodgrass, Ephesians - NIV Application Commentary)*

**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***a. We Have Spirit Filled Communication***

***Ephesians 5:19 [NIV] - Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.”***



**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***a. We Have Spirit Filled Communication***

***Psalm 100:1–2 [NIV] Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.***

**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***b. We Have Spirit Filled Thanksgiving***

***Ephesians 5:20 [ESV] – “...giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”***



**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***b. We Have Spirit Filled Thanksgiving***

***Colossians 3:17 [NIV] - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.***

**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***b. We Have Spirit Filled Thanksgiving***

***Romans 1:21 [NIV] - For although [the wicked] knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.***



**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***c. We Have Spirit Filled Submission***

***Ephesians 5:21 [ESV] - Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.***

**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***c. We Have Spirit Filled Submission***

***Philippians 2:1-3 - If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion...***



**2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit**

***c. We Have Spirit Filled Submission***

***Philippians 2:1-3 - ... then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.***

## 2. A Command: Be Filled With the Spirit

### *c. We Have Spirit Filled Submission*

*John 10:17–18 [NIV] - The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life -only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”*



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