

# NUMBERING OUR DAYS: Living in the Present

## Introduction

- 1) If we let God teach us to “**number our days**” we will gain a heart of wisdom (Psa. 90:9-12)
- 2) We speak of our earthly life in three tenses: **Past – Present – Future**
- 3) The **PRESENT** is each moment of life as we live it in the here and now
  - a) *Larger context*: present year, month, day; *smaller context*: present hour, minute, second
  - b) The present moment is where we actually live and work – the past (yesterday) is done and the future (tomorrow) is uncertain; what we do with each present moment is vitally important
- 4) What principles and truths does the Bible teach about “numbering” our **present** days?

## I) God Wants Us to Pay Attention to His Will for “Today”

- A) Old Testament Israel was to be alert to God’s will for their time – the Law of Moses
  - 1) “This day” (Deut. 7:9-11; 8:1, 11; 9:3; 10:12-13)
  - 2) The “today” of the Law of Moses continued for successive generations until it was fulfilled and taken away in Christ (Psa. 95:6-8; Gal. 3:24-25)
  - 3) We are to pay heed “today” to one greater than Moses – **Christ, the Son** (Heb. 3:1-15)
- B) Let us give heed to the “present truth” of Christ (2 Pet. 1:12; 3:18; Heb. 1:1-2; 2:1)
  - 1) New and better covenant (Heb. 8:6)
  - 2) Complete and sufficient revelation (Jude 3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
  - 3) Perfect and infallible guide for everyday life (2 Pet. 1:3; Psa. 119:105)

## II) We Must Understand Who We are in this Present Age

- A) A *remnant* (God’s faithful people) according to the election of grace (Rom. 11:5)
- B) A chosen generation, royal priesthood, holy nation, special people of God who have obtained mercy (1 Pet. 2:9-10)
- C) Children of light in the Lord (Eph. 5:8-11)
- D) People who live and walk by faith in Christ and His promises (Gal. 2:20)

## III) We Must Be Alert to the Dangers of this Present World

- A) Must be wary of this present evil world (Gal. 1:4; 1 Jn. 2:15-17)
  - 1) Persecutions, temptations, dangers, confusion, human philosophies, false religions, etc.
  - 2) Can distress us (1 Cor. 7:26; 2 Pet. 2:7-8) and tempt us to forsake the truth (2 Tim. 4:10)
- B) God’s word teaches us how to live in our present time (Titus 2:11-12)
  - 1) Hold fast the word of life and shine as lights in the world (Phil. 2:15-16)
  - 2) Abstain from fleshly lusts and practice righteousness (1 Pet. 2:11-12; 1 Pet. 3:10-12)
  - 3) Walk carefully, “redeeming the time” [“making the most of every opportunity, turning each to the best advantage since none can be recalled if missed” *Vine*] (Eph. 5:15-17)
- C) God is a very present (abundantly available) help in trouble (Psa. 46:1)
  - 1) Nothing in this present time can separate us from the love of God in Christ (Rom. 8:38)

## Conclusion

The present duty of every man is to “fear God and keep His commandments” (Eccl. 12:13)  
We must each moment “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Matt. 6:33)  
Let us continually “reach forward” to those things which are ahead and “press toward” the goal of eternal life (Phil. 3:13-14) as we **prepare for a future glory to come** (Rom. 8:18)!

“Behold, **now** is the accepted time; behold, **now** is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2)  
Hear the gospel, repent of sin, confess faith in Jesus, be baptized for remission of sins!