

From the moment we are born we are all affected by time. As babies we need feeding every few hours, then we learn the difference between day and night. Through regular events we understand the concept of a 7-day week, and so on. By the time we have passed through childhood we are thoroughly used to living by the clock. Everywhere we look time rules us - appointments, lessons, timetables, shift-work, opening hours.

# Time is part of being human

Some of us long for more time to fit in all the jobs and pleasures we want to accomplish, while some of us find the hours go too slowly through loneliness or boredom, or in looking forward to some exciting event. However we view it, nothing changes the steady, relentless passage of

## **Time is precious**

Once gone, we cannot get one moment back. We soon find that our youth has changed into middle age, or that we are now in old age. We face the possibility that it is too late to do certain things. If we think about it, we know we don't have much time left in life.

## All has a beginning and an end

Everything around us has a beginning and an end, such as a book, shopping list, bus journey, school term, meal, TV programme, or prison sentence. We only have to look around to see that life itself is limited. (Take a look at the newspaper obituary column if you need proof.)

Death is something most of us don't like to consider, but since our life will one day come to an end, shouldn't we value our time more? It is a fact that none of us knows how long our life will be, so it is urgent that we spend time now thinking seriously about the future.

#### **God has the answers**

We need answers to questions like 'Who am I?' and 'What happens when I die?' God tells us in His Word, the Bible, that He created time, along with us and everything else, so He alone can give us the answers. He made us perfect, like Himself: 'God created man in his own image.' 1

However, early on in time, sin (wrongdoing) entered the world. We are all affected - none of us can claim to be perfect now. Death is the consequence of sin and only God knows when death will occur. There is 'a time to be born, and a time to die.'2



The Bible tells us what happens after we die: 'It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement.' 3 We will be accountable to God for what we have done with our time on earth: 'Every one of us shall give account of himself to God.'4

God will judge each one of us, and assign us to one of two destinations for ever: 'some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.'5

## Where will you go after time?

The Bible tells us that we are all guilty and worthy of everlasting punishment. But there is an alternative. God Himself entered into our world of time especially to take the punishment due to us. This is what Jesus Christ did when He died on the cross nearly 2000 years ago. He gives a free pardon to all who come to Him acknowledging their wrongdoing and asking for forgiveness in His name. This offer is free, but it is only available while time lasts. It will be too late after we die.

### What will you do with your time now?

Thank you for using a small part of your time to read this message - don't let it be the last time you think about life seriously. Don't leave it too late to come to God!

'Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.'6

## How may you receive this salvation?

Each person must personally pray and receive Jesus Christ by faith as Saviour and Lord. You must repent of your sins, by asking for God's forgiveness on account of Christ's death, and then turn to and follow Him.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."7

> Many intelligent and sincere people spend all their time building for this world, and have no time for the future world. Does this describe you?

Quotations are from the 1 Genesis 1:27 Holy Bible, Authorized (King James) Version.

- 2 Ecclesiastes 3:2
- 3 Hebrews 9:27
- 4 Romans 14:12
- 5 Daniel 12:2
- 6 2 Corinthians 6:2
- 7 John 3:16

For further information, or to request a free Bible, please contact us using the details on this website