

Stopwatch / Timer / Clock / Alarm

- Remind us of limits, deadlines, and an end
- When hungry they say when we can eat.
- In games they limit our time to win or to lose.
- Place limits – sleep time, work time and play time

- **Calendars**: Limit days, weeks, years & lifetime.
- **Seasons** limit activities: Things that can only be done in spring, summer, fall, winter
- **Years** Birth, Infancy, Youth, Teen, Adult, Middle Age, Elderly, Death.



A Season for Everything A Time for Every Purpose

- *To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:
2 A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted;
Eccl 3:1-8*

God Created Means for Counting Time

- *Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years” Gen 1:14-15*





Without a Plan/Goal nothing changes!

- *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. Eccl 9:7*

Proper Attitude Toward Passing Time

- *"Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; 36 and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them. 38 And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. Lk 12:35-38*

Use of Time = Faithful / Unfaithful

- *But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. "Then Peter said to Him, "Lord, do You speak this parable only to us, or to all people?" 42 And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season? 43 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Luke 12:39-43*

A Powerful Contrast

- *Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has. 45 But if that servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, 46 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers Luke 12:34-46*

The passing of time
requires change!

- *For when by reason of the time you ought to be teachers you have need again that some one teach you the rudiments of the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of solid food. Heb 5:12*



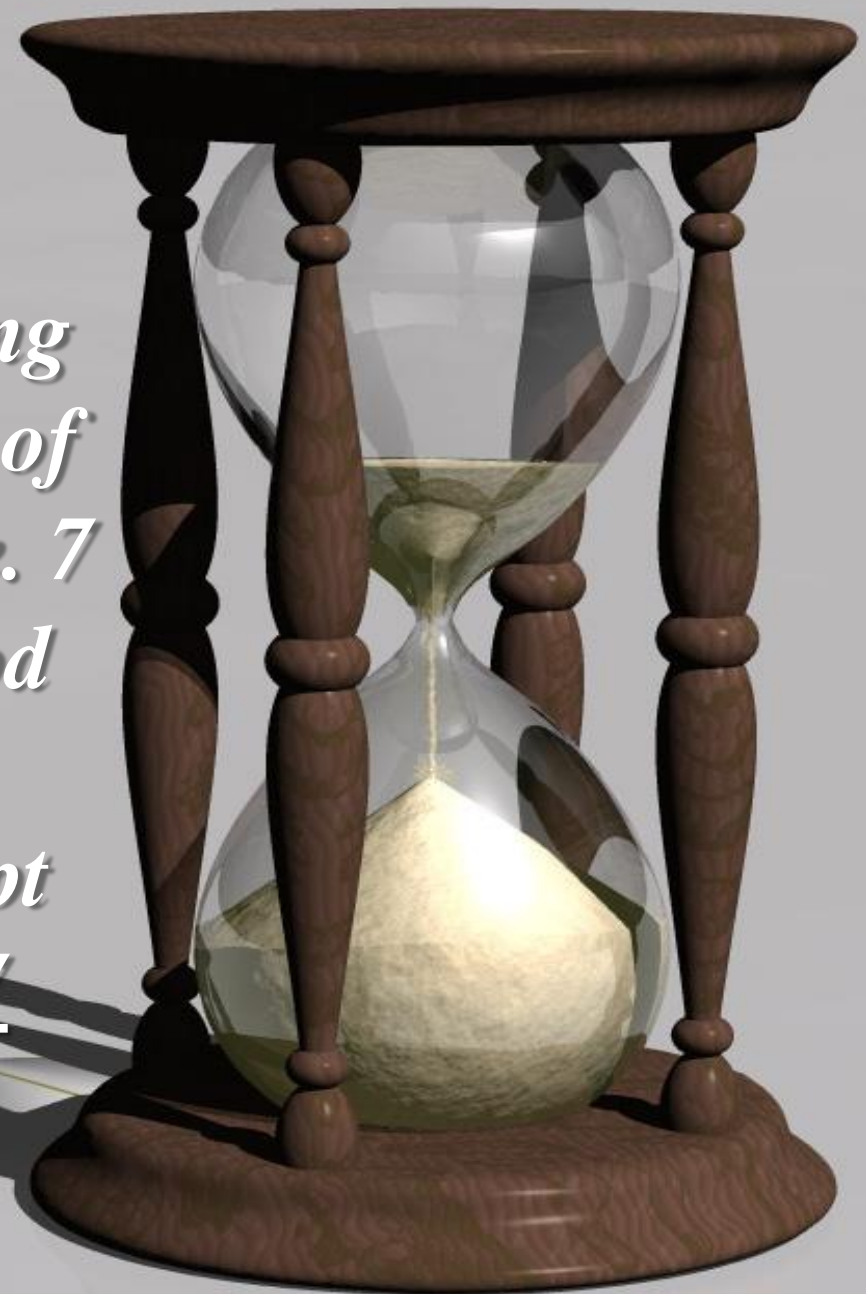
The Race Begins at Baptism

✦ *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. 25 Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; 27 but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified. 1Cor 9:24-27*

✦ The Race Ends at Death

If we want to
end like Paul...

- *For I am already being offered, and the time of my departure is come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith: 2 Tim 4:6-7*
- **We must run like Paul**



How Paul Ran – An Example to Follow

- **I press on**, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.
- **one thing I do**, forgetting the behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,
- **I press toward** the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
- Therefore **let us, as many as are mature**, have this mind;
- Brethren, **join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.**
Phil 3:7-17

Motivations

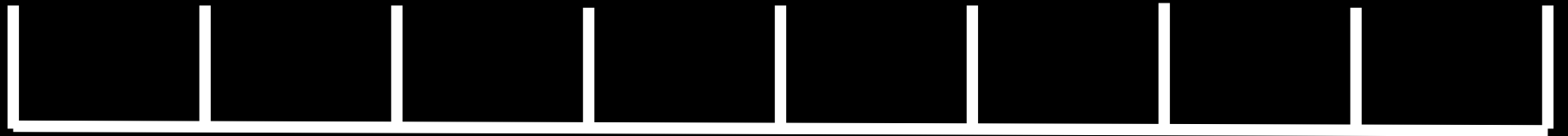
- ◆ Seek 1st Kingdom Mt 6:33
- ◆ Do it with ALL your Might Ecc 9:11
- ◆ Continue Stedfastly Acts 2:41
- ◆ Choose you this Day Josh 24:14-15
- ◆ Redeem the Time Eph 5:16
- ◆ A Steward must be Faithful 1 Cor 4:2
- ◆ Zealous of good works Titus 2:14; 3:8



Assessing Progress

- **Ability + Opportunity = Responsibility**
 - Mt 25:15-18
- **Don't Compare to Others**
 - Gal 6:4-5; II Cor 10:12
- **Nothing is too small a service**
 - Mt 10:42; Mk 12:41-42

Where Are We Now?

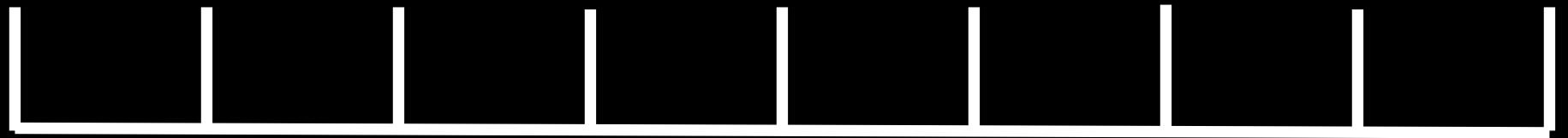


10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

**teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom**

Seventy or by reason of strength Eighty

We Are Always Running out of Time



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

**teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom**

Seventy or by reason of strength Eighty



We want our Life to end as David's

- *I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will. . . . For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid among his fathers, and underwent decay; Acts 13:22; 36*



If NOT this Year WHEN

- *Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. 2 Pet 3:11-13*

A Clear Sign of Progress

- *though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is for the moment, works for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory; 18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Cor 4:16-18*

Paul's Final End as Motivation

- *For I am already being offered, and the time of my departure is come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith: 8 henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved his appearing. 2 Tim 4:6-8*

Where are we Going?

► Specific Goals:

- Prayer. Lk 18:1, 8;
- Giving Thanks; Eph 5:20
- Scripture Reading II Tim 2:15;
3:14-16; Heb 5:12-14
- Cut it off Mt 18:8-9