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# Open Windows, Part 5 (Don't Get Robbed of Your Time)

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## Open Visions, Open Doors, and Open Windows

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June 5, 2022

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***Sermon: Open Visions, Open Doors, and Open Windows: Open Windows, Part 5 (Don't Get Robbed of Your Time)***

***Lesson Text***

Haggai 1:2–8 (AV)<sup>2</sup> Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built. <sup>3</sup> Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying, <sup>4</sup> *Is it* time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house *lie* waste? <sup>5</sup> Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. <sup>6</sup> Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages *to put it* into a bag with holes. <sup>7</sup> Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. <sup>8</sup> Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

***Introduction***

Last week, we looked at Getting Robbed in the Wealthy Place: Robbed of the Presence of God, The House of God, and the Blessings of God!

Let's now look at getting Robbed of our Time while in the Wealthy Place.

Perhaps you've heard the phrase "*Time waits for no man!*" It's actually part of a proverb that says "*Time and tide wait for no man.*"

This is a quote that dates back to 1225 AD, that is attributed to Saint Mahrer, in which "tide" means seasons or period of time. It simply means that we cannot delay the passage of time and should not delay doing things!

Time is a fickle thing; sometimes we feel like we just don't have enough time; other times we feel like time is just taking too long; and yet there are times when time is moving too quickly.

- Job 14:1 (AV)<sup>1</sup> Man *that is* born of a woman *is* of few days, and full of trouble.
- Psalm 90:12 (NLT)<sup>12</sup> Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.
- 2 Peter 3:8 (AV)<sup>8</sup> But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
- Matthew 6:34 (AV)<sup>34</sup> Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

Our lesson text speaks of three types of time:

- Verse 2 speaks of Chronological or Chronos Time; where we divide time into measurable increments (seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, and so on) to control and measure events.
- Verse 4 speaks of Historical or Kairos Time; where we look at life and society based on short and long-term events. Things are measured by moments of time or opportune time.

- Finally, Verse 8 speaks of Psychological or Perception of Time, where time is subjective and based on one's personal experience. For example, a boring activity may seem to last an eternity, but something that arouses and excites you makes time fly by.

When we get to the Open Windows, the Wealthy Place, not only can we be Robbed of our Blessings, but we can also be robbed of our Time in the Wealthy Place!

We can be robbed of our Chronos Time by misplaced priorities, we can be robbed of our Kairos Time because we can miss our season, we can be robbed of our Psychological Time because we are driven by our emotions or feelings.

***Series and Sermon: Open Visions, Open Doors, and Open Windows: Open Windows, Part 5 (Don't Get Robbed of Your Time)***

“Don't Get Robbed of Your Chronos Time, Your Kairos Time, or Your Perception of Time”

***I. Robbed of Chronos (Chronological) Time***

Haggai 1: <sup>2</sup> Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD'S house should be built.

The first thing we need to guard against is being robbed of our Chronos or Chronological Time in the Wealthy Place.

Chronos is the quantitative measurable amount of time we actually spend in the wealthy place. And when we misplace our priorities, our Chronos time can be stolen.

Ecclesiastes 3: <sup>1</sup> To every *thing there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

But when you misplace your time and place, you will lose your time and place.

Have you ever been waiting in line for something (cashier at grocery store, driver's license at the DMV), but then you get out of line to go to the bathroom. When you come back, you lose your place in line and have to go back to the end of the line.

Numbers 13: <sup>31</sup> But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they *are* stronger than we. <sup>32</sup> And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, *is* a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it *are* men of a great stature. <sup>33</sup> And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, *which come* of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

The Children of Israel got out of line and lost 40 years, and when we get out of line concerning the things of God, our callings or our ministries, we get robbed of time and go back to the end of the line.

Matthew 6: <sup>33</sup> **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**

Colossians 3: <sup>1</sup> If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Psalms 37: <sup>4</sup> Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. <sup>5</sup> Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.

## ***II. Robbed of Kairos (Historical) Time***

Haggai 1: <sup>4</sup> *Is it* time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house *lie* waste? <sup>5</sup> Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

The second thing we need to guard against is being robbed of our Kairos or Historical Time in the Wealthy Place.

Kairos is the divine moments, events, seasons, or opportune times in which God moves in our lives to accomplish God sized tasks.

There is a phrase that says, "Success is when Preparation meets Opportunity!" But if you are not in a constant state of preparation, you can miss your opportunity. If you stay ready, then you don't have to get ready!

But when you stop working on the things of God, you can miss your opportunity, your season, your divine moment.

In our lesson text, the people were so busy taking care of their houses, getting their money, taking care of their stuff and didn't realize that they were missing their divine moments and seasons and were losing their blessings as fast as they were getting them.

Haggai 1: <sup>6</sup> Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages *to put it* into a bag with holes.

Sometimes I'm fascinated by social media, not because of the mess and junk that happens on it, but how some people become rich or famous because of a special viral moment or incident.

Well, there are divine moments and seasons for the people of God that are designed to give us Spiritual Viral Moments to supernatural things for God. But if you are not in place when the moment happens, you will miss it.

Mark 1: <sup>23</sup> And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, <sup>24</sup> Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. <sup>25</sup> And Jesus rebuked him, saying, **Hold thy peace, and come out of him.** <sup>26</sup> And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. <sup>27</sup> And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine *is* this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. <sup>28</sup> And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

2 Timothy 4: <sup>1</sup> I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; <sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come ...

Galatians 6: <sup>9</sup> And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

### ***III. Robbed of Perception (Psychological) Time***

Haggai 1: <sup>7</sup> Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. <sup>8</sup> Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

- To keep from getting robbed of our Kronos Time in the Wealthy Place, we must put and keep God first in our lives
- To keep from getting robbed of our Kairos Time in the Wealthy Place, we must stay ready so we don't have to get ready when our season comes.
- Finally, to keep from getting robbed of our Perception or Psychological Time in the Wealthy Place, we must be driven by God's Word and not our Emotions.

Perception or Psychological Time is based on the individual subjective feelings we form based on our personal experiences.

Based on our experiences, time will either be frustrating, aggravating, disappointing, and depressing or it will be exciting, thrilling, joyful, and glorified.

Too many people are in the Wealthy Place frustrated, disappointed, depressed, and just angry and mad because things or people aren't what they thought or wanted.

And so, because of anger, their Perception of time causes them to rob themselves of their time.

Ephesians 4: <sup>26</sup> Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: <sup>27</sup> Neither give place to the devil.

Don't be driven by your emotions, be driven by your work!

Haggai 1: <sup>8</sup> Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

John 9: <sup>4</sup> **I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

Revelation 22:12 (AV)<sup>12</sup> **And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**

## Open Windows, Part 5 (Don't Get Robbed of Your Time)

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### Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Open Windows, Part 5 (Don't Get Robbed of Your Time))

#### Lesson Text

- Haggai 1:2–8

#### Sermon Outline (Notes)

- I. *Robbed of Chronos (Chronological) Time*
- II. *Robbed of Kairos (Historical) Time*
- III. *Robbed of Perception (Psychological) Time*

#### Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

##### I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. Do you set goals and go after them, or do you seize opportunities as they come? Do you do both? How?
2. Solve these brain teaser puzzles with your Growth Group by telling what phrases are represented by each of the below:  
  
a) \_V\_ADERS      b) 12:00T      c) WINEEEE

##### II. Into the Bible

1. Read Proverbs 6:6-8 and Proverbs 30:24-25. The ant is wise and industrious in its use of its time, skill and resources. What lessons can we learn from the ant as we relate it to our lives?
2. According to Luke 10:38-42, Jesus was at the home of Martha and Mary. What was Martha's complaint against Mary? Is there anything wrong with Martha focusing on serving Jesus? What is the "one thing" Mary chose but Martha didn't? What difference can the "one thing" make in a believer's life?

##### III. Life Application

1. Have you felt you were running out of time in a particular situation? What did you do to develop patience during your waiting?
2. Have you ever been delayed only to learn that the delay kept you from something potentially disastrous? Were you frustrated during the delay? What strategies have you learned in this sermon that can help you next time you are delayed?