

**Subject:** Teach us to number our days!

**From:** Mark Grenon

<jestadds@gmail.com@191A23.clients.bmsend.com>

**Date:** 4/18/24, 14:58

**To:** ac0xl.ham@gmail.com



## Teach us to number our days!

In Psalm 90:12 we read, "So teach us to NUMBER our days that we may apply our HEARTS unto wisdom", emphasis mine

Our time in this life on earth is LIMITED so it is wise to "number" them ( pay attention to how long we have), that we get the most out of everyday. In the book of James 4:14, we are told from Jesus' half brother, "whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For WHAT IS YOUR LIFE? It is even a VAPOUR, that appeared for a LITTLE while, and then VANISHETH away"

In the light of eternity, this 70+ years of "LIFE" is nothing compared to ETERNITY - FOREVER! So this LITTLE TIME we have should be well spent. Now, "well spent" for WHO or WHAT? For us to pursue what we want to do or for the Lord that gave us this LIFE for His Purpose? I can tell you from the Scriptures which is God's mind on ALL things that matter and are ETERNAL that He wants us to LIVE FOR HIS PURPOSE and NOT ours! The ONLY purpose we are here is to bring glory to Him! The people of this world living today as a whole, even "believers", think a person that is "consumed" with serving and pleasing the Lord Jesus Christ are "fanatics" and there is more to life than just living for the Lord and always talking of Him and His work and ministry. I disagree with those that believe that! Jesus taught otherwise and the believers in the Book of Acts showed us what He wanted us to ALL do!

In the Declaration of Independence we read what Thomas Jefferson wrote; "That ALL MEN are CREATED equal, that they are ENDOWED (given) by their CREATOR with certain unalienable (Cannot be taken away) Rights, that among theses are LIFE, LIBERTY and THE PUSUIT OF HAPPINESS". (emphasis mine) For what purpose did our "Creator" give us these Rights? Do you think it was for you and to fulfill your desires or for Him? Before, Mr.. Jefferson ever wrote these words the same TRUTH was written to man 2,000 years ago in the Bible. In Acts chapter 17, Paul the Apostle was preaching in Athens on Mar's Hill that God Who "made the world and all things therein does NOT dwell in temples made with hands". See verse 24. In verse 25, Paul states that God is NOT worshipped with the things that man has made i.e. idols and buildings but personally! In verses 26 & 27, we read that we are " made of ONE BLOOD all the nations of men and to dwell on ALL the face of the earth." And that if "they" (all men) should "seek the Lord, if haply they might feel (seek) after, Him" they would find Him. This is a promise from the Lord found throughout the Bible! See Jeremiah 29:13, Deuteronomy 4:29, I Chronicles 28:9 and Isaiah 55:6.

Then in verse 17:28 we read these words, "For in him we live, (LIFE) and move, (LIBERTY) and have our being, (Pursuit of Happiness). You see what Jefferson wrote was there 2,000 years ago and I believe that was the purpose of God for man even back to the Garden of Eden! Now let's put "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness" in prospective. I ask again, were those Rights given to us by God for us to fulfill our fleshly desires and wants or is there a deeper ETERNAL purpose? Is it a Spiritual purpose as opposed to a physical one that what is really important? Let's go back to Psalm 90:12 where it says that we should "number our days". Yes, we should realize that we have a limited time in this life but there is another meaning to the word "number" that gives us more insight into what the Lord means. In Hebrew, the word is "Manah" which can also mean "to Prepare". So let's look at that verse again and insert the word "Prepare" for the word "Number". It would read like this; "Lord teach us to "prepare" our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom". The same word "manah" is used in the Book of Jonah where God PREPARED or APPOINTED, a FISH, a WORM and a WIND to teach Jonah a lesson! So we are not to ONLY "Number" our days but learn to PREPARE and APPOINT our days. That means EFFORT is involved in living each day. We don't just watch and wait passively to see what happens each day but PREPARE for each day! What does that entail?

How did the first days of Creation happen in the Beginning of Creation? They didn't just happen. Before they existed, God PREPARED them. He APPOINTED them. He PURPOSED them. So, if you are a Child of God you, must actively do the same. How? - PRAYER. Praying for the days that don't exist yet! Prayer is NOT for ONLY what is, but for what is NOT yet. It is asking God for help and wisdom to PREPARE us for what will happen next. We cannot know what will happen but it doesn't matter if you APPOINT and PREPARE your days in God to bring what is good. You consecrate (make Special or Holy) your days for the PURPOSE of God then use each day to accomplish His PURPOSES. There is a saying that goes like this: "Don't let your days determine your life but let your LIFE AND PURPOSE determine your days". Don't just let your days pass by but put effort and energy to PREPARE your days that they might become vessels of BLESSING and LIFE. Appoint each day to fulfill the purposes of our Father, The Most High! Then you will find REAL LIFE that pleases you as well as the Lord.

Psalm 37:5 says, "COMMIT (Purpose) thy way unto the Lord; (NOT unto you) trust in Him; and He will bring it to pass". Look at what happened in the past when man pursued his PURPOSE - DISASTERS, TORMENTS, FOOLISHNESS, WICKEDNESS, NO PEACE but ONLY the judgment of God. From Adam's fall, to the Flood. At Babel man wanted to do (Purposed) what he desired and NOT God and man was scattered over the face of the earth by God - DISASTER! When the children of Israel did NOT follow the Lord in the wilderness - DISASTER! Same with the kings of Israel that didn't follow the Lord and eventually were sent into captivity - DISASTER! The same will happen to each man or woman that pursues their own PURPOSES and NOT God's!

Now the other side of this is those that follow the Lord and His purposes received blessings, guidance, protection and peace! Look at Enoch, Noah, Job, Nehemiah, Esther, Ruth, Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, Daniel, Shadrak, Mesech and Abendigo, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and those that served the Lord in the New Testament such as Peter, John, James, Paul etc.. The same can WILL happen to each man or woman that follows the Lord purposefully!

How does one prepare for tomorrow? Well, God gave Moses the key to "preparing" our days and Jesus taught the same in Matthew 22 and that is: "To love the Lord with all thine heart, souls, mind and strength". In Deuteronomy 6:6-9, Moses told the children of Israel what God COMMANDED and that was to teach their children DILIGENTLY those words and talk about it when "Sitting in the house", "Walking outside", "When they are going to bed" and "When they wake up". In other words, ALL THE TIME! Sounds like God was telling them it was O.K. to be a FANATIC! I remember a long time ago I heard and preacher say, "This Book (The Bible) will keep you from sin or SIN will keep you from this Book!" Satan will do everything he can to keep us from hearing from God and the main way to hear from the Lord is through His Word! STUDY the Scriptures daily and STAY in

the Word of God my friends so that you can PREPARE your days!

I've been sharing the Gospel with the men in this new area I am in as well as giving them the Gospel message in tracts and written materials. I've been praying to be able to start a Bible study here because there is no Bible study presently in this floor. Well, Friday night a man from Colombia came up to me and asked me if I would teach him the Bible because my son Joe told him I was preaching upstairs twice week. I told him, SURE!. Sunday we had 5 show up to study and we'll be doing it every Sunday until I leave and hopefully someone will take over. I am praying for 10 men next Sunday! Keep praying that the Lord will guide YOU to people that are seeking His Word and His Will and He will send them to you. I've seen it happen all my life since I've been saved. It is a blessing to see people accept the Lord and be saved as well as those that that are already saved grow! This is the reason Jesus came, "To seek and to save that which is lost". And He has told us to "Go and do likewise". "As the Father has sent me so send I you", John 20. See also Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20 where Jesus commanded us to GO!!!

Pray for Joe and I that we leave this building soon and go to a Half Way House where we can have a phone and more freedom to leave and go out in the city. With a phone will be able to talk to many! I want to also volunteer at a Rescue mission and find a good Bible believing Church. After the Half way House we can go to "House Confinement" where we can be until our sentence is over which is in a few months. We will have ankle bracelets on until we are released then 3 years of probation! Pray that we can get the probation reduced also.

Pay attention to what is happening in Israel. That is God's prophetic clock to show us that He is soon coming! See John 14:1-6 as well as I Thess. 4:13-18. "Look up for our Redemption draweth nigh!". He will come as "thief" in the night. see Matthew chapters 24-25. Tell others what Jesus has done daily! BE A FANATIC FOR HIM!!

Lord bless,

mark

Proverbs 3:5&6

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