

## **Parson to Person Let Us not be Addicted to ...**

Good morning, Church!

You have heard Pastor Paul teach at length about being “addicted to time.”

What a help it has been to be reminded that (1) in our flesh we are susceptible to addiction on various dangerous fronts, from lust to rage to emotions to substances and everything in between;

(2) that even as we born-again believers are free from THOSE addictions, we are stuck often in a temptation to idolize “more time” as we might other addictions, and idolize TIME in the same way or to the same degree as other addictions;

(3) that, recognizing this, we should be on guard against keeping a tight carnal grip on our time—whether it be our free hours in a day or week or weekend, or our free years in a retirement.

Our God has provided ETERNAL life by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, as written in the Bible alone, to the glory of God alone... so let us not grasp earthly time as if ETERNITY were not already our guarantee!

Now here is a related concept:

**LET US NOT BE ADDICTED TO “THIS LIFE.”**

Think about this reflection from the Apostle Paul:

“For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless, to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.”

Philippians 1:19-24 NKJV

Whoa...

Can I actually say, with the apostle, “I am hard pressed because I want to go be with the Lord Jesus right now?”

Or am I actually addicted to this life? My current, temporary, fleeting, fading life in this fallen and evil world?

We will look closely at this dilemma today, and it is a dilemma for us! Stay tuned!

I love you each one...

Pastor Jason