

Redeeming the Time

Ephesians 5: 8-16

The Greek word translated “redeeming” in Ephesians 5:15 is *exagorazo*. It means to buy up for oneself...buying up the opportunity. In this verse the word time is the Greek word *Kairos*, meaning a season or a time in which something is seasonable. The word also means making the most of every opportunity, turning each to the best advantage since none can be recalled if missed.

Acts 17:24-28

This passage says that when we are in the right place at the right time, God extends our horizon line so we can move into our future.

Matthew 9:16 is a great example of Jesus teaching about the new.

I have identified eight new issues to look for in your life as you move from one season to the next.

1. NEW IDENTITY. May His fullness flow through your personality. May your soul be restored. May all fear and manipulation that has crowded your identity and confined you to your past be removed! Your new, transformed personality will have the ability to overcome the mountains in the past season that stopped your progress. (See Isaiah 41; Zechariah 4.)

2. NEW GARMENTS OF FAVOR. Garments, favor, and identity all go together. When we overcome the circumstances that come into the path of our lives, we develop a testimony. With our testimony comes favor. Favor is much like grace but is usually linked with our obedience. Favor opens doors. May you overcome, radiate with favor, and have entryway into new opportunities.

3. NEW RELATIONSHIPS. When the Lord is doing a new thing in us, we must evaluate all of our relationships. He has new, fresh, divine connections to bring into our paths. He supernaturally aligns us with others who will cause us to come into a greater level of success. He positions people on our path to propel us down our path. One of our most difficult changes to make in life is letting go of certain relationships that will hinder our future. However, when these soul ties are cut, we advance.

4. NEW ACTS. In the early church, the power of God was displayed through the anointing in Paul's handkerchief and Peter's shadow. Many demonstrations and acts of power through the apostles are recorded. Through history, every time God is ready to do something new, new acts begin that demonstrate His power today. We must expect to see the Lord divinely intervene in our lives with signs, wonders, and miracles in each new season we enter.

5. NEW WEAPONS FOR THE WAR AHEAD. With each season we enter we must reevaluate our armor. There are diverse gifts and many operations of those gifts. Our shield of faith must be repaired and shined to remove any wounding from the past season. Our belt of truth must be tightened as we move against new enemies in this age. We must be a people who, like David, choose not to use the proven armor of the last season but develop our own that will efficiently overtake the giants in our path.

6. NEW SOUNDS. May you hear the sound of victory and shout this sound from the rooftops. Every new season and every movement is preceded by a new song. We sing before we develop our theology. New songs break old cycles. Sound creates movement. The trumpet is sounding a new sound. Listen carefully. May you receive everything you need to defeat your enemies.

7. A NEW ANOINTING. The anointing breaks the yoke. The anointing makes us grow fat so that every confining weight falls from us. The anointing, the *mashach*, makes us so greasy that the enemy cannot grasp and hold us from entering into the best that God has for us. May you receive a new anointing! (See Psalm 92.)

8. A NEW LEVEL OF AUTHORITY. May you receive the ability to stand in dominion in the sphere of authority that you have been granted by the Lord. May you war and remove every stronghold in that sphere. May you bring every thought captive to the obedience of Christ so you advance and harvest the field He has given you. May your authority be demonstrated by an exercise of power over your enemies who would hinder your progress. (See 2 Corinthians 10.)

Redeeming The Time: *Get Your Life Back on Track with the God of Second Opportunities*