



January

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Liberty Baptist Church

liberty-online.org

Pastor's Paragraph

January 2025

“God's Gift of Time”

Some of us may have received a watch, a clock, or a calendar as a gift this Christmas, and gifts like that remind us of the importance of time and being on time. Watches, clocks, and calendars can't actually give us more time, but they only measure time and help us to be “on time.” Your time, my time, all time is a gift from God—each day and minute are gifts from God. Someone said that's why we call it “the present.” Here are some important reminders about time and how to use it for God's glory in this New Year:

1. Understanding our time

- A. *Time is limited.* Like the dash on a tombstone, our lifetime is a limited time. There is a famous cathedral in Europe known for its three arched doorways that lead into the sanctuary. Over the right entrance are these words: “All that pleases is but for a moment.” Over the left entrance are these words: “All that troubles is but for a moment.” Over the main entrance is this inscription: “All that is important is eternal.” Jonathan Edwards prayed: “O God, stamp eternity on my eyeballs!” That's a wise prayer because all human life eventually comes to an end.
- B. *Time is uncertain.* Scripture says we have no guarantee of tomorrow, next week, month, or year. Proverbs 27:1 “Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.”
- C. *Time is brief.* Our lifetime is like a vapor (mist, fog) (James 4:14). Psalms 39:4 “LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.” Psalms 144:4 “Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away.” Someone described it like this:
When as a child, I laughed and wept, time crept.
When as a youth, I dreamed and talked, time walked.
When I became a full-grown man, time ran.
When older still I daily grew, time flew.
Soon I shall find in traveling on, time gone.
- D. *Time is valuable.* You can't buy any more. When I buy a book, the thought often crosses my mind that I really wish I could buy more time to read the books I have, but that's not possible.
- E. *Time is entrusted to us by God.* We are merely stewards, not owners; therefore, we are accountable to God for how we use time. Handle it with care and prayer.

2. Using our time

We should use our time wisely. Ephesians 5:16-17 “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.” To redeem time means making the most of it, to use it wisely. That requires a knowledge of God's will and a desire to do it, which in turn requires a heart to read and study Scripture and then trust and obey what it teaches us. If we are to use our time wisely we must focus on two things: our responsibilities and opportunities. Responsibilities (duties) are things we must do.

Pastor's Paragraph January 2025 "God's Gift of Time"

Opportunities (divine appointments) are things we can do, if we are alert and willing to take advantage of them. We need to be looking for opportunities to help, serve, share, and bless others. Someone said, "The greatest tragedy in life is not what people suffer, but what they miss." In closing, here are three keys to using time wisely: 1) *Organize your time*: make a list of things you need to do. Plan your work and then work your plan. When we plan we should hold our plans loosely and know that God has the right to change our plans. Write down your plan for each week and day, and then check things off as you get them done; 2) *Prioritize your time*: spend time with God first of all in prayer and Bible study; spend time with family and in worship; 3) *Analyze your time* at the end of each day and week, and evaluate how you used that time.

May God guide and help us to use the gift of time wisely in 2025,
Pastor Stan

Ordination Service

Upon recommendation of Pastor Stan and Liberty Deacons, Josh Bowman will be ordained to the Gospel Ministry on Sunday, January 26, during the 10:45 AM service. This will be a special occasion in the life of our church family, so let us approach it with gratitude, joy, and prayer. Please understand that Josh and Mary will continue to serve in their current roles at Liberty.



JANUARY

UPCOMING EVENTS



07
JAN

LADIES BIBLE STUDY
11:00 AM/ STUDY BY SUSAN HECK

08
JAN

ADVENTURE CLUB RESUMES
6:00 PM

12
JAN

FAMILY BUSINESS MEETING
7:00 PM/ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS @ 5 PM

13
JAN

PASTOR'S FELLOWSHIP
10:00 AM

13
JAN

FOOD PANTRY
12:30 PM/ VOLUNTEERS ARRIVE @ 11:30 AM

17
JAN

SOUND BOOTH TRAINING
7:00-8:30 PM/ SNACKS PROVIDED

26
JAN

ORDINATION SERVICE
10:45 AM/ FOR JOSH BOWMAN

26
JAN

SS/ MINISTRY LEADERS
12:30 PM LUNCHEON & MEETING

28
JAN

HAVEN OF REST
7:30 PM/ SPEAKER: DUSTIN DAUGHERTY



January 2025



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WED

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1 Eli Chaffee	2 Layla Phillips	3	4 Amelia Musick
5	6	7 Kathyren Beverly Gladys Dillard Eyden Hughes	8 Isabella Musick	9	10 Bill Beverly	11
12	13	14 Mary Bowman	15	16	17	18
19	20 Megan Leonard	21 Josh Bowman	22 Kylie Housewright	23	24 Jason Gilreath	25
26	27	28	29	30 Peggy Stout	31	

Happy Birthday! We love you!!

A Prayer for the Transition of Years

*" Lord, as we arrive at the cusp of another year's end,
We feel reluctant to cross the finish line.
For we ought to have run a better race.*

*Both Thy record book of memory and ours of conscience,
Find us painfully lacking in Scripture's balances.*

*We wish we had justified ourselves less and repented more.
We wish we had talked less and communed with Thee more.*

*We wish we had sinned less and loved Thy Son more.
We wish we had backslidden less and worshiped Thee more.
We wish we had judged others less and served them more.*

We can't understand why Thou has loaded us with so many blessings.

Why hast Thou been so much better to us than we to Thee?

*Why hast Thou borne our griefs and carried our sorrows,
And interceded continually, and loved fully, even when chastening us?*

Forgive, O Lord, our rewarding of evil for all Thy good.

We pray for grace to run the race of grace better in the year to come,

*In and by Thy strength, making mention only of Thy righteousness,
Expecting nothing of ourselves but everything of Thee.*

*Jesus Christ, enfold us in Thy shepherding arms,
pencil Thy image on us, And ripen us for eternal communion
with Thee to Thy Triune glory."*

~Dr. Joel Beeke