

AAM 1

it may be that we had better turn aside from it, and have nothing to do with it, but it may very well be that a way will be found to utilize this thing for the Word of God and to make it an instrument in God's Kingdom. Everything which God has made is in itself good. It may be misused, it may become evil, we may have to turn aside from it for a time, but it is God's will that we redeem much of that which is often used contrary to His will. And so we take this phrase which is found both in Ephesians 5:16 and in Colossians 4:5, "redeeming the time" and perhaps particularly appropriately in Ephesians 5:16, "redeeming the time because the days are evil." The days are evil. What shall we do about it? then? Shall we cast them aside, shall we want to be through with this life, to go to heaven just as quickly as possible? No. Redeem the time. Use it for the glory of God. Oh, it irritates me when I meet somebody and they say, "Oh, here's a good thing to do to kill time." I think, "What on earth do you want to kill time for? There is so little of it anyway, and there is so much that needs to be done." We don't want to use it as something evil. ~~We don't want to use it for what is evil.~~ We don't want to use it for wrong, but oh, how we could use some more of it for what is right. Why on earth should anybody ever want to kill time? We have a very limited amount of time but here is one place where we are all equal. Every single one of us has three hundred and sixty-five days in the year and there is no man living who has more and there is no man living who has less. We have all exactly the same amount of time but what do we do with it? Are we redeeming the time or are we letting it slip? Is it going through our fingers? Is it simply being lost? Well, you might say, "What time is this to talk about redeeming the time when it is all gone? We're right up to the examinations anyway. Suppose you have/let it slip day after day and done nothing about it. You can't do anything about it now. I remember when I was in seminary we used to say that when exam time came we studied every night till three in the morning and then we got up at two the next morning and started in again, and it was particularly easy to do that there because of a very bad system they had. All courses, practically, ran right through the year and exams