

Wednesday Word Meditation Material #40 (December 30, 2020)

OrderPrayer → Praise → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Meditation on Grace → Prayer → Lord's Prayer

- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 460 & 539 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Acts 17:21
- ❖ **Understanding Scripture** (*The Greed of Time*)
 1. Human beings have the greed of time. It is true not in negative sense but in positive sense. It could be paraphrased into “passion for doing best in life.” In that sense, we are not familiar with the expression like: “I have enough time.” Rather, we are very comfortable with the expression like: “I don’t have enough time.” Even though this is not always right, we say “those who do their best need more time.” Thus, we can ask this question: “why do you hurry?” In year-end season, we ask this kind of questions more than before. Question like: “we have done our best. Then for what?”
 2. Not the people of God, but the Athenians did their best until their death in order to acquire so-call, “knowledge.” If there was something new, they spent their own possible resources to acquire that. According to today’s text, Acts 17:21, “all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there” wanted to spend their time “in nothing except telling or hearing something new.” The Athenians, and the foreigners who were used to seeking the “something new” as the Athenians did, might boast their knowledge before people or want to learn more about new knowledge.
 3. **God delivered the “life-giving knowledge” through apostle Paul to the Athenians who used their precious time for acquiring the knowledge which could not affect their life (even life after death).** That knowledge was the fact that Jesus Christ, through His death, resurrection, and second coming, became the Savior for His people. Apostle Paul, with bold and strength, but without hesitation and modification, preached that life-giving knowledge to them. Then, they listened to the gospel from apostle Paul (Acts 17:18~20) because they thought the gospel was something new (new knowledge). Then, at the end, some people of God believed in Jesus Christ and saved (Acts 17:34).
 4. In this way, God made us know Jesus Christ, the “knowledge of life,” who “spent our time for the nothing related to the life” and saved us through the faith in Jesus. Through this new and life-giving knowledge, we received the eternal life in Jesus Christ and became know the fundamental value of that knowledge.
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
 1. As the people of God as well as Jesus’ disciple, for what should we use our time and cry out for our short of time? That must be not the things that are limited to this world and that cannot affect our life, but Jesus Christ who changed our destiny. Isn’t it true?
 2. When we check our steps in 2020, we should plan again for fulfilling them unfulfilled. But, the more important questions are: “How many hours did we use for the “knowledge of life in 2020?” and “How many hours do you want to spend your time for acquiring that knowledge in 2021?”
 3. By relying on Jesus Christ in order to overcome our weakness, why don’t we pursue our “greed of time” to be used for “our life for the kingdom of God and His righteousness”? In other words, in our life journey, we should seek the value of life and weigh of life in our worship community (Zion Presbyterian Church), and spend our precious time in order to realize truly blessed, powerful, and mature Christian life, based on the “knowledge of life.”
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord’s Prayer.