

Time

When we consider the natural world, we begin to realize that **time hides from us many of the Creator's most spectacular miracles**. Some are too split-second for us to perceive; others are too gradual to appreciate.

For instance, on one hand, consider a single beat of a hummingbird's wing (up to 80 per second!). On the other hand, ponder the sculpting of the Grand Canyon.

Or think of the human body. Each simple function is a chain of interworkings, incredibly complex, yet almost instantaneous. But just as marvelous is the transformation of a microscopic egg into an adult human being, capable of reason, imagination, love, work, and worship. (Growth seems to be God's favorite miracle. Up close, it's invisible. From a distance, it's breathtaking . . . too beautiful to rush.)

We are locked into the present, with narrow notions of fast and slow. We are caught in the blindness of time, space, and self. The Everlasting One blesses us, and we do not see Him coming or going. We fail to trace all the wonders of Him who is unhurried and unhindered by time, reigning in eternity. To the Overlord of all the ages, the Master of each moment, nothing is fast or slow. Time is not a barrier or a restraint, but a tool wielded by His wisdom.

How foolish, then, for us to pretend to be masters of our time. We frantically try to control what we cannot control. Rigid, rushed schedules are our attempts to bring productivity, consistency, and balance into our confusion and fatigue.

But the Lord reminded me years ago that **time anxiety is as foolish and unproductive as all other anxieties**. "*Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?*" (Matthew 6:27, NIV)

Anxiety blocks our free and open response to God's moment-by-moment leadership. Worry produces only tension, selfishness, and insensitivity. It chokes out love, gentleness, and joy.

Turn to one of the Gospels in the Bible (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) and **read about Jesus. Notice that while He had so much to accomplish in so little time, He never rushed.** He was busy, but He never seemed tense or hurried.

That's because He focused on only one priority: following His Father's leadership step by step. Each moment was in His Father's hands, so Jesus simply did as He was directed to do and worked as He was enabled to work.

Our Creator, our Father gives us the same privilege. We don't need to juggle our priorities and obligations in our own wisdom. God wants us to lead and balance our lives by his wisdom.

He calls us to listen and respond to His leadership regarding time. We are to use our self-discipline there rather than toward our own arbitrary schedules. **As we do, He breathes natural balance and joy, a peace and productivity into each moment, of both labor and rest.** He slips accomplishments into our schedules that surprise and delight us.

He is personally with you always. He would be delighted to guide and provide for your time needs. This is just one more area in which He calls us into a closer, more constant fellowship with himself.

God's gifts are practical. They are more satisfying than we have tasted or imagined. He invites us to discover them all.

***God is never in a hurry.
He is the master of time, not its slave.
Walk with Him in His peace.***

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