

Now or Never! Holding nothing back!

2 Corinthians 6:1-18

Focus v1-3

V1-3: You were made new creations saved by God's _____ and given a wonderful new purpose and _____ in life! 2 Corinthians 5:17 So, don't waste the opportunity God has given you. Ephesians 5:14-17 _____ is "The day of salvation"! _____ is the time God has given you to accept or reject Christ. Now is the opportunity you have to serve him and tell others the good news of the gospel! Isaiah 49:8-13. When should I accept Christ and be obedient...? _____! Esther 4:13-14

A hardened heart! God's Holy Spirit is patient, but He will not always continue to work on our hearts. There will come a time when His Spirit does not strive to penetrate us. Genesis 6:3, Exodus Ch 3-7 Pharaoh hardened his heart, Psalms 51:11, Hebrews 3:7-8, Hebrews 10:26, James 4:14, Revelations 9:13-21 You do not know how long the Spirit of God will continue to work on your heart, you do not even know how long you will live. There comes a terrible time when a person's heart and conscience are so seared and hardened that they can't repent. So, don't keep waiting to come to Christ, do it now!

Also, followers of Christ must not put off becoming serious about following and serving the Lord. Do it now! John 9:4. We don't know how long the Lord has given us to work for Him. Also, we are not to judge when another person is "beyond saving". That is something only God knows. Many times, people we believe are "unsavable" come to repentance and we are shocked and surprised. Other times people we just, "know are almost there in coming to Jesus" we never see them repent. This is a mystery that theologians have discussed for ages. Why do some people come to Christ after hearing the gospel and why do others who hear the message of Jesus literally hundreds of times never accept His grace and are lost for eternity? We are not given all the answers, we are to walk by _____ and be _____ telling "everyone" the Goodnews of Jesus! God is the one who does the "saving". Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 10:23-27

Thank goodness it is not your or my place to make such judgments. It is our place to love others so much that we _____ cease telling people the good news of Jesus! 1 John 1:1-4

So, in order to _____ and _____ be ambassadors for Christ and not be _____, there are many things we can't partake in, and other things we must partake in. In other words, we are controlled by the love of Christ through the Holy Spirit to live a certain way. Again, remember in the end we face the two most important decisions we will ever make in our lives! First, to accept the gift of salvation through Jesus, and become a new person and receive eternal life, or reject it. Secondly once we accept that gift of grace to live a life worthy of our new position in Christ! So now is the opportunity for salvation, and now is the opportunity to serve Him. We want to be able to say what Paul said toward the end of his life in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. I held nothing back, I gave everything I had to serve God and serve other people.

So now is the time to pray and ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and become a new person and born-again believer Let's pray now....

Also, if you are already a born-again follower of Christ, now is the time to fully commit your life to serving Him and "Hold Nothing Back"! Let's pray now...

Part II. V4-18 The irony, and paradox of how a follower of Christ must live in this world:

Answers: grace, mission, Now, now, now, faith, obedient, never, legitimately, effectively, discredited