

## What Time Is It? Whose Time Is It? #1

### Introduction:

- A. We have tremendous opportunities.
  - B. We need resources to take advantage of those opportunities.
    - 1. We need money for mission work, benevolence, materials, facilities.
    - 2. We need time to visit, worship, train, minister, serve, encourage.
    - 3. We need people to work, teach in Bible school, evangelize, and specifically at this time, serve as deacons.
    - 4. Where will we get the money, time, and people we need to do the Lord's work?
- I. GOD IS OFTEN LATE ACCORDING TO HUMAN STANDARD TIME, BUT ALWAYS ON TIME ACCORDING TO GOD'S SOVEREIGN TIME.
- A. God is aware of time; He started it. Genesis 1:1-2:3
  - B. God is not bound by time. 2 Peter 3:8
  - C. God is always on time (God's Sovereign Time).
    - 1. Jesus had a time to arrive on earth. Galatians 4:4
    - 2. Jesus had a time to start His ministry. John 2:4
    - 3. Jesus had a time to die. John 7:30; Romans 5:6
    - 4. Jesus had a time for the descent of the Holy Spirit and the establishment of the church. Acts 2:1
    - 5. There is a time for His return. Matthew 24:36
  - D. God is often late according to HST (Human Standard Time).
    - 1. Eden - why didn't He show up and argue with Eve and the serpent instead of waiting until they had sinned and call them into account? (Genesis 3).
    - 2. GST works better than HST.
    - 3. Alex Haley: "This book took me 12 years to write. I relate that to something that my grandma used to say: 'The Lord may not come when you want Him to, but He will always be on time'" (*What Roots Means to Me*, quoted in *Reader's Digest*, May 1977, p. 75).
- II. GOD WILL SUPPLY ALL OUR NEEDS ON TIME (GST).
- A. God will supply our needs. Philippians 4:19; Matthew 7:7,8; 1 John 5:14,15
  - B. Materially. Matthew 6:19-34; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11
  - C. Spiritually. Ephesians 4:7-16; Matthew 25:14-30
  - D. God will give us leaders when we need them.
    - 1. He will send laborers into the harvest. Matthew 9:35-10:4; Luke 6:12-16
    - 2. He gives us leadership selection principles. Exodus 18:13-26; Deuteronomy 1:9-18; Acts 1:15-26; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9
  - E. Will we do it with Hagar or with Sarah (our way when we want to do it or God's way when He wants to do it)? Genesis 16

Conclusion:

- A. This time last year, we were financially challenged, wondering if anyone would serve as elders.
- B. God has been good to us.
- C. He will continue to supply our needs as we cooperate with Him in receiving His gifts. Philippians 4:19
- D. Will you accept the gift of salvation? Romans 6:23; Revelation 22:17