

A Bubble, a Shadow, a Dream!

by Thomas Brooks

Thomas Brooks' sermon highlights the fleeting nature of time and the importance of using it wisely for spiritual purposes.

Scripture: Job 9:25, Ephesians 5:15

Topics: "Accountability", "The Value of Time"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the fleeting nature of time, comparing it to a bubble, a shadow, and a dream, urging listeners to recognize the preciousness of each moment. He warns that at the final judgment, those who have wasted their time on trivial pursuits will regret not using it for spiritual growth and repentance. Brooks illustrates the urgency of valuing time, as it is a talent for which we will be held accountable, and he encourages a life focused on God rather than idle distractions. He poignantly reflects on the eternal consequences of how we spend our time, urging a serious commitment to spiritual matters. Ultimately, he calls for a life lived with intention, as time once lost cannot be regained.

Transcript

"My life passes more swiftly than a runner. It flees away."

Job 9:25

TIME is a precious talent which we are accountable for.

Cato and other heathen held that account must be given,

not only of our labor--but also of our leisure. At the great

day, it will appear that those who have spent their time in

mourning over sin--have done better than those who have

spent their time in dancing; and those who have spent

many days in pious humiliation--better than those who

have spent many days in idle recreations.

I have read of a devout man who, when he heard a clock strike, he would say, "Here is one more hour past, which I have to answer for!" Ah! as time is very precious--so it is very short. Time is very swift; it is suddenly gone.

The ancients emblemed time with wings, as it were, not running--but flying! Time is like the sun, which never stands still--but is continually a-running his race. The sun did once stand still--but time never did. Time is still running and flying! It is a bubble, a shadow, a dream!

Sirs! if the whole earth whereupon we tread were turned into a lump of gold--it would not be able to purchase one minute of time! Oh! the regrettings of the damned for misspending precious time! Oh! what would they not give to be free, and to enjoy the means of grace one hour!

Ah! with what attention, with what intention, with what trembling and melting of heart, with what hungering and thirsting--would they hear the Word!

Time, says Bernard, would be a precious commodity in hell, and the selling of it most gainful, where for one day a man would give ten thousand worlds, if he had them.

Ah! as you love your precious immortal souls, as you would escape hell--and come to heaven; as you would be happy in life--and blessed in death, and glorious after death; don't spend any more of your precious time in drinking and gabbing, in carding, dicing, and dancing! Don't trifle away your time, because time is a talent that God will reckon with you for.

Ah! you may reckon upon years, many years yet to come;

when possibly you have not so many hours to live! It may
be this night you will have your final summons--and then,
in what a sad case will you be! Will you not wish that you
had never been born?

Sirs! Time let slip--cannot be recalled!

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/thomas-brooks/a-bubble-a-shadow-a-dream/>

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