

Optimistic Kingdom Minded Opportunists

Twine

Ephesians 5:15-20

Ephesians 5:15

So be careful how you live.

**Don't live like fools,
but like those who are wise.**

Ephesians 5:16

**Make the most of every
opportunity in these evil days.**

Ephesians 5:17

**Don't act thoughtlessly,
but understand what the Lord
wants you to do.**

Ephesians 5:18

**Don't be drunk with wine,
because that will ruin your life.**

**Instead, be filled with
the Holy Spirit,**

Ephesians 5:19

**singing psalms and hymns and
spiritual songs among yourselves,
and making music to the Lord
in your hearts.**

Ephesians 5:20

**And give thanks for everything to
God the Father in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ.**

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Ephesians 5:15-20

Principle #1

Time in this life is a gift from God,
and none of us know how much
of it we are allotted, so we must
regain possession of it.

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**Instead, be filled with
the Holy Spirit,**

Do not... But/Instead

- **Be a fool**
 - Be Wise
- **Act thoughtlessly**
 - Understand what the Lord wants you to do
- **Be drunk with wine**
 - Be filled with the Holy Spirit

Principle #1

Time in this life is a gift from God,
and none of us know how much
of it we are allotted, so we must
regain possession of it.

Principle #2

The Holy Spirit has a perfect track record of empowering God's children to thrive in the darkest days, times, seasons, and years.

**There is nothing new
under the sun.**

- Ecclesiastes 1:9

Ecclesiastes 1:9

History merely repeats itself.

It has all been done before.

Nothing under the sun is truly new.

Ecclesiastes 1:10

Sometimes people say, “Here is something new!” But actually it is old; nothing is ever truly new.

Ecclesiastes 1:11

**We don't remember what
happened in the past,
and in future generations,
no one will remember
what we are doing now.**

Principle #2

The Holy Spirit has a perfect track record of empowering God's children to thrive in the darkest days, times, seasons, and years.

The Antonine Plague

Also known as the Plague of Galen was an ancient pandemic in 165-180 AD brought to the Roman Empire by troops returning from campaigns in the Near East.

The Antonine Plague

- Roman Historian Dio Cassius (155-235) estimated that at the height of the plague there were 2,000 deaths per day.
- Around 5 million deaths total.
- 25% Mortality Rate.

The Cyprian Plague

A plague that occurred between 250-262 BC. The cause of the plague is highly speculative due to sparse sourcing, but suspects include smallpox, pandemic influenza, or viral hemorrhagic fever like the Ebola virus.

The Cyprian Plague

- Its modern name comes from St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, an early Christian writer who witnessed and described the plague.
- Estimated 5,000 deaths per day at the height of the plague.

Dionysius

“Most of our brother-Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Headless of the danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering

Dionysius

to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy; for they were infected by others with the disease, drawing on themselves the sickness of their neighbours and cheerfully accepting their pains.”

Christianity Thrived!

- 120 believers in 33 AD
- 40,000 believers by 150 AD
- 218,000 believers by 200 AD
- 1,170,000 believers by 250 AD
- 5,000,000 believers by 300 AD
- 600,000,000 by 1910
- 2,190,000,000 by 2010

Principle #2

The Holy Spirit has a perfect track record of empowering God's children to thrive in the darkest days, times, seasons, and years.

Principle #3

The Lord's perfect will is for you to make the most of every opportunity you have to truly demonstrate what the Christian faith is all about.

Ephesians 5:16

**Make the most of every
opportunity in these evil days.**

Principle #4

Optimistic, Holy Spirit

Empowered, Kingdom Minded

Opportunists will exemplify a
lifestyle of gratitude even in the
darkest of times.

Ephesians 5:20

**And give thanks for everything
to God the Father in the name
of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Principle #5

So long as we stay fixated on walking with our Master hand in hand, we will thrive in even the most impossible situations.

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