

Today

While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation...

– Hebrews 3:15

Time is a strange overlord. It is in some cases benevolent, offering us opportunity to change, to amend, to correct course. In other instances, or under different parameters, it becomes adversarial to our efforts for such and similar actions. In all situations, it is a consistent captor – an integral confinement to our human experience that waits not for us yet permits us to either waste it to our destruction or steward it to our advantage.

We mark our lives by time. Celebrations such as anniversaries or birthdays as well as practical mechanisms such as budgets and paychecks all are based upon ticks of the clock. This devotional itself is set for release on January 1st of 2026 – the beginning of a new year that will bring untold triumphs and tragedies, which will be both known and aged in but another 365 days.

God has made us as eternal souls. We are confined, however, at least temporarily so, by time. Surely, our heavenly habitation will not know this boundary. The scriptures indicate that in the final phase of the re-creation we will be released from time's confining cadence into the glorious liberty of the eternal "now" in which our Creator resides. He is, after all, the great I AM – unfettered by time and unchanged by years – and He has made us in His image and likeness, to share eternity's timelessness with Him in His kingdom and glory. But until that day, and perhaps because of it, we must recognize time for its purpose and exercise the responsibility we own as humans to bend it to our eternal advantage.

This is critical to our spiritual progress – understanding that our discipleship is based in the moment. What is past is past. It cannot be changed, only leveraged. What is future is unknown, yet our God is already there, leading and calling us to a desired end that is for our good. We stand in the crossroads of "today". It is in this moment that I need to hear Him. It is right now that I need to trust Him. The line of communication with Him is available. His Word is at hand for me to consume – currently. His promises which were written centuries ago are alive and vibrant for me to believe presently. His ear is bent in heaven to hear the cry of my heart to begin, and He will not retract it when now fades into then, but He will continue to listen as I pour out my soul within me. Today – right now – is the opportunity of faith that will secure His victory in my ever-changing circumstances, trials, and temptations, or the moment when I will lean upon the arm of flesh, quench His Spirit, and squander the chance to gain ground on this upward pilgrimage.

Today – let us hear His voice. Today – let us consume, trust, and obey His Word. Today – let us call upon the name of the Lord. If we will follow Him today, He will lead us into a wonderful and glorious tomorrow. — D. Murcek