

Seize the Day

These words come from an ancient Greek. The words teach that people should make the most of today. Tomorrow is uncertain and not yet here. We do not have the time of tomorrow, so we cannot spend it. All we can do is to make the most of today.

Solomon tells us to make the most of today. In his famous Ecclesiastes 12, he describes how we become old. There will be a time where age has taken its toll and we are no longer able to do what younger people do. So before this happens, we must remember God. Before this happens we must; *"Fear God and keep his commandments"* (verse 13). Whatever we do in our day, we must remember that *"God will bring every deed into judgment"* (verse 13).

We will never be as young as we are today. We will never have as much energy and youth as we have today. So today we must use while we have the time and energy. Today is the day of opportunity. *"Do not say to your neighbour, 'Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow' – when you now have it with you"* (Prov 3:28). Today is the day when we must take the opportunities. Some we must take. Some we should take. We should not put off till tomorrow what should be done today.

Today is a gift from God. Others no longer have this gift. Some wasted it when they had it. Some made use of it well. Today is given us freely by God to freely use as we choose. But what will we choose?

Today is full of choices. It is by these choices we will be defined. It is not how well we will do them that will define us. It will be the fact that we have chosen and tried that will define us. *"See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws"* (Deut 30:15-16). We must encourage each other to keep God's ways, using words like this exhortation; *"encourage one another daily, as long as it was called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness"* (Heb 3:13).

Tomorrow is uncertain. Only God knows if He will give it to us as a gift. We do not know; *"Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth"* (Prov 27:1). It is a false assumption to assume that tomorrow will be like today; *"'Come,' each one cries, 'let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better"* (Is 56:12). It is an assumption that tomorrow will be better than today. Since we don't know, we should make the most of today. Concerning tomorrow, everything should be *"if the Lord wills"* (Jam 4:15).

We should not think that we have all the time in the world. Our life flies by so quickly (Ps 90:10). We are like the grass of the field that does not last. We must make each day count; *"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom"* (Ps 90:12).

Jesus used his time wisely. He kept working *"today and tomorrow and on the third day"* (Luke 13:32). The cock crowed three times that day, but Jesus did not deny his calling. Because of his wise use of Today, we have hope for tomorrow.