

“What Is In Your Wake?”

By Mrs. Sojourner

Have you ever been at a lake and watched a boat and/or water-skier go by and leave a wake of ripples in what had been smooth still water. The larger or faster the boat, the larger the disturbance.



Notes:

^[a]Gal.
5:22

King of Kings, and have a great opportunity to impact the people around us in a way that brings, not only them, but also those they impact, closer to Christ.

The more we walk in God’s ways, the more our “wake” will be full of peace, joy, love, kindness, faithfulness, patience, and goodness—the fruit of the Spirit. ^[a]

Now and then it is good to evaluate ourselves and see what is in our wake. Are the people around us brought closer to the Lord because of our “wake”? This prayerful self-evaluation helps us find and, through repentance, remove any disastrous characteristics we did not realize were there and possibly causing people to run every time we, and our wakes, came near them.

Every person impacts the people they encounter in a way similar to the boat on the water. They leave a “wake” behind them. How the person treats others determines what type of wake trails behind them.

2 *When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan.*
Proverb 29:2 (NIV)

4 *By justice a king gives a country stability, but one who is greedy for bribes tears it down.*
Proverb 29:4 (NIV)

I realize some may think these scriptures speak more to rulers than to “regular people.” Well, the scripture tells us:

26*You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus,*
Galatians 3:26 (NIV)

We, as Children of God, are part of the family of the

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...with The Sojourner

“Grace And Time”

(Teaching Sketch)

Revelation 21:1-14



When God blesses mankind it is an act of grace.^[1] Grace is something both believers and non-believers depend on each and every day while there is the thing we call time. Time is calculated by the turning of the earth for the reckoning of a day and time is calculated by the revolution of the earth around the sun in the reckoning of a year. Likewise a month is the calculating of the phases of the moon over a period of time.

All reckoning of time is utilized by the Believer and non-believer alike since there is still time. Time will, as it is said, “Run out.”

Out Of Time

It is fascinating to hear the number of people who say they have “no time.” They can’t do this or that because they have no time. These are, often, the very same people who say they have no money. These are individuals who actually believe they live in lack. Never mind, mind you, each person, assuming they live through the week has 168 hours each and every week. All people are equal in time, again assuming they live through the entire week. Lack

Notes:
[1] charis
khar'-ece
; gra-
ciousness
(as grati-
fying), of
manner
or act;
especially
the divine
influence
upon the
heart, and
its reflec-
tion in
the life;
including
grati-
tude):—
accept-
able,
benefit,
favour,
gift,
grace (-
ious), joy
liberality,
pleasure,
thank (-
s, -
worthy).

only comes into play with time when a person does not live out the entire year, month, week, or day. The very fact a person is alive means they are living in God’s grace! Most people in Christian circles know grace to be, “unmerited favor.”

When God chose Israel to be his people, that was unmerited favor. When God delivered his people from bondage in Egypt, that was unmerited favor. When God sent his only begotten Son into the world to save the world, that was unmerited favor. When God draws a person, even you, that is unmerited favor. All this occurs within “time!”

Is there actually a shortage of time or is there a lack of time management? People often drift through life much like a leaf on a pond until the new watery environment swallows them up into oblivion. The challenge is in fact neither a lack of time nor perhaps a lack of time management but a lack of will. The scripture tells us, “God is unwilling that any should perish.” ^{2 Peter 3:9}

Scripture:

Revelation 21:1-14 (NIV)

The New Jerusalem

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

⁵He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

⁶He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷He who overcomes will inherit all

Notes:

this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. ⁸But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

⁹One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel.

¹³There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. ¹⁴The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

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Out Of Will

"Will," now there is a very interesting thing... "will." Will is, "*The mental faculty by which one deliberately chooses or decides upon a course of action.*" A person's behavior is governed by will, then, not by time or lack. If time or lack were governing, then everyone would be exactly alike when it comes to time or lack. The seemingly illusive part must then be "will." That being the case it is now evident time and lack must have gotten a "bum rap." It must be considered then, it is the ability to make decisions which cause unique results to the individual. If God is not willing any perish in this life or eternity and people are experiencing what God does not want, then it must be due to the person's choice of will given by God's grace which causes the discrepancies in the lives of people. So then should we blame God for foolishly granting "free will" or the person for squandering good judgment and reaping poorly the blessing God's "will" bestowed to all who would incorporate their will with his?

Return To God's Will!

If your will has drifted from God's will, return to God's will. Allow the blessings of Jesus Christ to empower you to victory by his grace in time and eternity.

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship**
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

