

**003, The Significance of Time**  
**Pastor Max Doner**  
**Sovereign Grace Bible Church**

In this first verse of Genesis, we are introduced to three incredibly important concepts:

- 1) **Time**
- 2) God
- 3) Origins

Today, we want to look at the concept of time as it is introduced in Genesis 1:1

1. **God's activity before the existence of time** - John 1:1-3 – An expansion and further explanation of Genesis 1:1. John 17:5 – Jesus speaks of this previous activity (before the world was). John 17:24 – Jesus says to the Father, you loved me before the foundation of the world. All the plans for the salvation and deliverance of fallen man were completed before “in the beginning”. Election to salvation – Ephesians 1:4. God had already elected a people to be holy and without blame before Him. The gift of Jesus Christ to shed His blood on the cross – 1 Peter 1:18-20. Eternal life was promised – Titus 1:2. Grace was given before in the beginning – 2 Timothy 1:9. Time and history did not begin out of nothing, it did not begin out of a vacuum, and neither did it occur as a random act of chance. In the beginning was really not the beginning.
  - i. **There was before time and history ever began, a personal God who could, because He was a Trinity have relationships within those persons of the Trinity.**
    - i. The reason why we can love and have real relationships with each other as people, is because this is what God is from all eternity past.
  - ii. **There was before time and history ever began a clearly defined plan and purpose for time and history.**
    - i. This was to show forth the glory of God in salvation to a portion of fallen humanity. God knows all of His works from the beginning to the end. Knowing that the fall would take

place, God was able to determine and plan salvation for the elect. History is “His” Story. What is happening today is the unfolding of God’s plan.

## **2. Man’s responsibility in the unfolding of time**

- i. Man was given a beginning, and therefore time to do the will of God. Adam was told how to use his time from the very beginning. The misuse of time, was a major part in the fall. As saved people, we are to be employed in doing the will of God – Ephesians 5:16.

### ***How to redeem the time:***

- i. Establish priorities – Spiritual priorities must come first
  - ii. We must learn to say no – no to others, no to self, seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness
  - iii. Learn to say yes to God and His priorities – Jesus calls us by His example, self-sacrifice in the allotment of how we spend our time
- ii. ***Why we must redeem the time:***
    - i. We do not know how much time we have
    - ii. For the Glory of God and carrying out the eternal purposes of God