



'What time I
am afraid I will
trust in Thee.'

Psalm 56:3



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Time

The science of studying and measuring time is called horology. Now although we are all familiar with it, the whole concept of time is hard to explain. Time seems to be an ongoing, continual thing that is unstoppable and irreversible. People talk about saving time, having plenty of time, finding time and even making time, but if the truth be told they have no control over time, whatsoever.

Time can do strange things to our minds. Whenever you are bored, time seems to drag. However, whenever you are doing something exciting or really enjoyable, or if you are in a rush to get something finished, like an exam, then time just seems to fly. Furthermore, whenever something happens very quickly, we do not notice it, and it is just the same whenever something happens very slowly, such as hair growth - we do not notice that either.

There are some things that we do know. Time can be measured. Time has three main divisions, past, present and future. In the world around us, time is measured by things that repeat themselves regularly. The rotation of the earth on its axis takes one day. The moon orbiting the earth accounts for a lunar month. The earth's orbit of the sun, taking much longer, is how a full year is measured.

As well as looking to the natural realm, men have developed calendars to keep track of days, weeks, and months. Mechanised clocks and watches, followed by digital and atomic clocks using quartz crystal vibrations and electromagnetic waves have enhanced the accuracy of time-keeping beyond seconds to milliseconds, microseconds, and even nanoseconds.

Now, when we come to the Bible, God places a great deal of emphasis on time. In Psalm 31:15, God says our times are in His hand. In Psalm 90:12, we are told to 'number our days and apply our hearts onto wisdom.' From the New Testament, God wants us to realise that 'time is short' and that we should not boast about what we will do tomorrow. God tells us in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 that there is a specific time for everything. There is time to weep and a time to laugh, a time of war and a time of peace, a time to be born and a time to die. In the light of the uncertainty of when all these things might happen to us, God then says in 2 Corinthians 6:2 that 'behold, now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation'. God makes it abundantly clear that now is the time to prepare for the great eternity that lies beyond the realms of time. ■

QUIZ

Are you 12 or under?
Send your **answer, name,**
address and church to:
Rev Garth Wilson
e: answer@fpvission.org

Look up the following Bible references.
Add up the number of all the days mentioned
and work out how many weeks they come to.

- Genesis Ch.22** -
The number of days Abraham and Issac walked together in the land of Moriah.
- Jonah Ch.3** -
The number of days after which Nineveh would be overthrown.
- Nehemiah Ch.6v15** -
The number of days it took to finish building Jerusalem's walls.
- Mark Ch.8** -
The number of days the multitude followed after the Saviour.



Answer:



weeks