This Is the Day the Lord Has Made  
Psalm 118:24

Introduction:

1. We are often more conscious of time at the beginning of the year.
   1. Time is a valuable and important gift from God.
   2. How you spend your time is more important than how you spend your money. Money mistakes can be corrected, but time is gone forever. – David B. Norris
   3. You have heard it said that you can’t waste time, spend time, or save time. To tell a man not to waste time is like telling a fish in the biggest ocean not to waste water. Actually, we have no influence on time at all. It is here and it surrounds us. What we can waste and do waste is ourselves. And the tragedy and the real waste lies in what we could do and could become, but do not. Next time you say, “I’m wasting time,” change that to say, “I’m wasting myself.”
2. Sometimes we say God has given us another year.
   1. Actually, He has given us another day.
   2. He does that every 24 hours.
3. Right attitude toward time. Psalm 118:24
   1. Here is a great statement
   2. Notice the three ideas.
4. GOD’S PROVIDENCE. Psalm 118:24
   1. God made today.
   2. God is in control of the world. 2 Peter 3:5-7; Hebrews 1:3
   3. God rules in the affairs of men. Romans 8:28; Genesis 50:20
   4. God made today like it is; therefore I will not criticize Him nor complain about it.
      1. E. W. Berry told of a little girl who liked all kinds of weather. She said, it’s raining, its refreshing, when it’s snowing, it’s exciting, and when it’s sunny, it’s lovely.
      2. Eight-year-old Jeffrey, saying grace at breakfast, ended with “We thank You for this beautiful day.” His mother, glancing out the window at an approaching storm, asked, “Why did you say that? This day is anything but beautiful.”

“Mother,” he said, “we should never judge a day by its weather” (*Faith, Hope & Hilarity*, by Dick Van Dyke, page 105).

1. GOD’S PROVIDED TIME. Psalm 118:24
   1. Man is limited by time. James 4:13, 14; Psalm 90:10,12
   2. God gives us a day at a time.
   3. We ought to use today because
      1. It is all we have.
         1. What we accomplish must be accomplished while we have life. Philippians 3:13, 14; Ecclesiastes 9:10; Hebrews 9:27
         2. There is urgency in doing God’s will. 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 3:13
      2. It is all we can manage.
         1. Daily bread is all we can eat. Mat. 6:11
         2. The work of one day is all we can do.
         3. The troubles of one day is all we can successfully deal with. Matthew 6:34
            1. Never bear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds – all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have. – Edward Everett Hale
            2. The Israelites received a day’s supply of manna. Exodus 16:16-36
      3. It is all we need.
         1. To be a Christian. Acts 16:30-34
         2. To be restored. Acts 8:18-24
         3. To live the Christian life.
            1. Daily study. Acts 17:11
            2. Daily prayer. 1 Thessalonians 5:17
            3. Daily teaching. Acts 5:42
            4. Daily following Christ. Luke 9:23
2. GOD’S PRAISE. Psalms 118:24
   1. We need to rejoice and be glad today. Philippians 3:1
      1. Every day we live with hatred, envy, an unforgiving spirit, discontent, we loose that day in living the abundant life. Philippians 4:1-4
      2. We can learn to be content a day at a time. Philippians 4:11, 12
   2. We need to use wisely God’s provided time today in His Service. Ephesians 5:15, 16; John 9:4

Conclusion:

1. Each new day brings new blessings and opportunities.
2. Use today to serve God.
3. This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good. What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, not loss; good, not evil; success, not failure – in order that I shall not regret the price that I have paid for it.
4. TODAY – you need to serve God. Psalm 118:24