

In His Time

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. Christians are given instructions regarding time
 - 1. Eph. 5:16; Rom. 13:11; 1Peter 1:11; Gal. 4:4; Heb. 5:12-14
- B. Humans often misunderstand time
 - 1. Time does not exist outside of the created universe
 - 2. God is not bound by time; He alone controls it - Psalm 75:2-3, 89:47-48
 - 3. Time is a measurement of duration and decay
 - a. It is not linear, reversible, nor malleable
 - b. It exists and is quantified in a point, not a line
- C. God set five critical points in time: Life, Death, Salvation, Kingdom, Judgment

I. LIFE, A POINT IN TIME

- A. When does life begin; does it begin at conception, at a certain time in the stage of development after conception but before birth, or at birth?
 - 1. Many contend life begins at birth (first natural breath of air).
 - 2. The Bible represents life before birth
 - 3. Luke 1:41; Psalm 139:16; Jer. 1:5; Psalm 139:13, 15
- B. The Bible does not speak of the embryonic state as lifeless, but as being a living entity - Ex. 21:22-23
 - 1. The only reasonable conclusion is that life begins before birth at the point of conception. If not then, when?

II. DEATH, A POINT IN TIME

- A. At what point in time does death occur?
 - 1. I took a medical ethics course at YSU, and the medical profession is somewhat divided over the matter
- B. The Bible is not conflicted over this question
 - 1. James 2:26; Luke 16:22; John 19:30 - Their souls departed

III. SALVATION, A POINT IN TIME

- A. Most religionists would agree salvation is available, but disagree widely at what point in time it occurs
 - 1. Most of denominationalism insists salvation occurs when the lost believes; "salvation is by grace only, Christ only, and faith only."
 - 2. If this is true the demons are saved because they believe - James 2:19
 - a. James 2:19-26 - It is obedient faith, or it does not save
 - 3. At what point in time does salvation take place?
 - 4. Acts 2:36-38, 41, 47; 22:16; 1Peter 3:21; Rom. 6:4-5; Gal. 3:26-27

IV. THE KINGDOM, A POINT IN TIME

- A. Dan. 2:44 "...in the days of these kings"
- B. The Kingdom was established during the Roman Empire in Acts 2, AD 30.

V. THE JUDGMENT, A POINT IN TIME

- A. Matt. 24:36; Acts 17:31; 2Peter 3:7-10