

## LOST OPPORTUNITIES

This past Sunday I spoke on the importance of "Redeeming the Time" based on the scripture found in (Colossians 4:3-6). I began with the amazing story of Audie Murphy. Life magazine (July 16, 1945) featured him as their cover story entitled "Most Decorated Soldier. His desire was to join the military following the bombing of Pearl Harbor but he was rejected for being too young. Sometime later his sister altered his date of birth and he returned to the recruiters. Again he was rejected by the Marines and U.S. paratroopers for being too short and underweight. He was finally accepted by the army. One must wonder if when he was receiving his Medal of Honor and 32 additional honors and medals that those who had rejected him wished they could have a "do over". The older I get the more I realize how important it is to make wise use of our time. Our world is filled with frivolous things that occupy so much of our time. Note Paul's instructions- "So be very careful how you live. Don't live like people who are not wise. But live wisely. I mean that you should use every chance you have for doing good, because these are evil times. So don't be foolish with your lives. But learn what the Lord wants you to do" (Ephesians 5:15-17 E.R.V.). It is not just a matter of filling up our time but rather remembering the importance of filling it with good things. It is often in the search for opportunities to serve that we miss those that come our way every day.

Gary Puryear

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