

## Work, For The Night Is Coming

Ponder: How short is the time?

Scripture: “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4, NKJV).

A few months after He healed the man born blind (John 9), Jesus would be arrested, tried, and crucified. Scholars debate whether this healing was in the fall or winter, but even if it was fall, we’re looking at only six months until that momentous day.

Neither the blind man himself nor his parents were to be blamed for his blindness. Jesus said his condition was so “that the works of God might be revealed in him” (9:3). Healing him was one of the “works of God” that Jesus said He must do “while it is day” (i.e. while He was still alive in the flesh).

Some manuscripts read “We” must do the works of Him who sent Me . . . Certainly there is legitimate application, both to the apostles and to us, of the urgency of doing the Lord’s work. How would you react if you knew you had only three to six months left to do whatever you are going to do for God on this earth? Shortly before His crucifixion, Jesus said in prayer to the Father, “I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do” (John 17:4). Could you truthfully say that?

Paul urged the brethren at Ephesus and Colosse to be “redeeming the time” (Ephesians 5:16; Colossians 4:5). To “redeem” the time simply means to make the most of it, as opposed to wasting it. Unlike other commodities, wasted time cannot be recovered; it is gone forever! A friend of mine says, “Whatever I do with my time today, I’m exchanging a day of my life for it.” A sobering thought, don’t you think?

Indeed, the night is coming. Not one of us knows when sundown will be in our individual case. We often say, “We have no guarantee of tomorrow.” That being the case, let us busy ourselves working the works of God. The night is coming when no one can work!