

## Ephesians 5:16 (NLT2)

*Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.*

Twenty years ago we thought things could not get any worse, then 9-11 happen and we thought that was it. Then gay marriages came on the scene, and we thought that was it. Now in 2024 the world has become something we thought we would never see or that it could ever get this bad. What's sad is things will just keep getting worse.

But in today's verse, did you realize it's telling us as Christians what to do in these times (*evil days*), or even what we should had been doing twenty years ago.

† *“Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.”*

With things as bad as they are, not only in the USA, but throughout the world, how can we make the most out of *“these evil days”*, especially as a Christian?

Well, when I was at church this last Sunday, I was talking to some of the people, and we were talking about Covid and the masks we had to wear, and some of the thing people put on those masks, like smiles or weird faces. One person said they saw one that looked like the creature from Aliens and how it would wrap itself around the face. It pretty much looked like a reptile octopus, and someone made a mask like that.

But as we were talking I started to think how we as Christians could have things put on them like, “Ask me about Jesus” or a short bible verse or something like, “Ask me about my best friend who died and came back to life after 3 days”.

This is just one example, but like they say, when you are given lemons, make lemonade. But we are not given lemons, we are actually given salt, and if you just let salt sit out too long, it actually loses it saltiness and becomes useless.

† **Matthew 5:13** *You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.*

But not only are we given salt, but we have social media where we can pour that salt into. But what are we doing with it? Posting political things, or bashing other groups, or using it to bring others down with all the negativity in this world? Or are we using it to post scripture and to encourage our brothers and sisters in the Lord, or giving people the gospel, which is not those make you feel good verses, but the truth of repentance and turning to Jesus?

When things are going tough, we can either sit there and whine and do nothing, or we can get out there and be an encouragement to others. Because believe it or not, you are not the only one going through the things happening today, everyone is. But not everyone has Jesus as their Savior and their Hope, but we do, so why not use that Hope in the lives of others to “*make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.*”

† **Titus 2:11-15** *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.*