

2018 CALIFORNIA MISSION OFFERING SERMON

It's Time – CA Churches Reaching CA

Romans 13:11 (NLT)

This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

By Mike McGuffee

INTRODUCTION:

In the inspirational book and movie "Seabiscuit" we see the story of an undersized race horse that earns considerable success and becomes an extremely popular underdog for the millions affected by the Great Depression. His owner Charles Howard tries repeatedly to provoke a race with the mocking New York tycoon Samuel Riddle and his "War Admiral," the top race horse in the country. Riddle eventually agrees to a match race on his terms between War Admiral and Seabiscuit. At the race, Seabiscuit upsets the heavy favorite partly because of a secret the jockey knew -- hold Seabiscuit head to head with the other horse so he could get "a good look at the Admiral." At just the right time Seabiscuit made his charge and won the race. If we want to win California to Christ we need to act at the right time. This year's California Mission Offering theme is, "It's time!" Use this outline as a guide to build a CMO sermon about the urgency to win California's unsaved population to Christ. One of the ways California Southern Baptists can pursue this goal is through the California Mission Offering.

1. THE URGENCY

"This is all the more urgent. ... Wake up"

A. "Wake Up"

Three spiritual conditions:

1. Alive and Awake
2. Dead and Deceived
3. Alive and Asleep

Characteristics of sleeping people

- They don't realize they are asleep until they wake up
- They are oblivious to what's going on around them. Illustration: Rip Van Winkle (slept through a revolution)
- They will do things in their sleep they would never do if they were awake
- They don't like the sound of the alarm

B. "Clean up" Romans 13:12-13

13 because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. (purity, ethics, integrity)

1. Social sins: “wild parties and drunkenness
2. Sexual sins: “sexual promiscuity and immoral living”
3. Sainly sins: “quarreling and jealousy”

C. “Grow up” Romans 13:14

14 Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don’t let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

1. Yield ourselves to Christ’s lordship
2. Let His strength empower us

THE UNDERSTANDING:

“for you know how late it is; time is running out”

A. The Time is Short

1. Coming of our Savior: “our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed”
 - a. A blessing for believers, the 2nd coming of Christ
 - b. Judgment for others

B. The Need is Great

1. Condition of our state
2. Challenge of our resources
3. Consequences of our silence: if not us who?

C. Opportunities are Abundant

Examples of CMO supported ministries

APPLICATION:

What can I do? What must I do?

1. Pray
2. Go/Share
3. Give

(Mike McGuffee is a member of the CSBC Church Revitalization Initiatives Team. A longtime California Southern Baptist, Mike is a graduate of California Baptist College (now University) and Golden Gate (now Gateway) Seminary. He has served as pastor of several CSBC congregations.)

The California Mission Offering is inspired by S.G. Posey, a CSBC missionary pioneer.

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