



11:59



Forward and Back Again

Your Awareness of Time

Why does your awareness of time matter?

Because time is about context. And context defines you—who you are, what you think, say, and do.

Forward and Back Again

Your Awareness of Time

Context Defines:

Consider the word, “trunk.” Its definition is determined by its context, or the words that surround it.

*A hickory trunk
in the forest.*



Forward and Back Again

Your Awareness of Time

Context Defines:

Consider the word, “trunk.” Its definition is determined it’s context, or the words that surround it.

*A swaying trunk
in the African jungle.*



Forward and Back Again

Your Awareness of Time

Context Defines:

Consider the word, “trunk.” Its definition is determined by its context, or the words that surround it.

*A padlocked trunk
in the baggage
compartment.*



Forward and Back Again

Your Awareness of Time

Context Defines:

You are surrounded by your past, present, and future. So, who you are, what you think, and what you do will most often be guided by where you are in time.



A Time
for Every
Purpose
Under
Heaven

A close-up, black and white photograph of a clock face. The numbers 10, 11, and 12 are clearly visible in a bold, sans-serif font. The clock hands are partially visible, and the background is a solid blue gradient.

**Forward and
Back Again**

there and back again...
a hobbit's tale, by
Bilbo Baggins

A close-up, black and white photograph of a clock face. The number '10' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. To its right, the number '11' is partially visible. The clock hands are dark and thick, with the hour hand pointing towards the '10' and the minute hand pointing towards the '2'. The background is a light, neutral color, and the overall composition is clean and minimalist.

**Forward and
Back Again**

Forward and Back Again

God Is Sovereign Over Time

“God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.” (Genesis 1:5)

“[God] made the moon to mark the seasons. The sun knows its time for setting.” (Psalm 104:19)

Forward and Back Again

God Is Sovereign Over Time

“Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the does? Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, when they crouch, bring forth their offspring, and are delivered of their young?” (Job 39:1-4)

Forward and Back Again

Looking Forward Is Important

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the men of old gained approval.” (Hebrews 11:1-2)

Forward and Back Again

But Should We Be Looking Back?

“Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

(Philippians 3:12-14)

Forward and Back Again

But Should We Be Looking Back?

“Dwell in the past and you’ll lose an eye. Forget the past and you’ll lose both eyes.”

–Russian proverb

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“Consider what great things [the LORD] has done for you.” – 1 Samuel 12:24

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers.”

(Deuteronomy 8:1-2)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“You shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.”

(Deuteronomy 8:1-2)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years.”

(Deuteronomy 8:3-4)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land...a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing...

And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.” (Deuteronomy 8:7, 9-10)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“But take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments...

Lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied...”
(Deuteronomy 8:11-13)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“Then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water...”

(Deuteronomy 8:14-15)

Forward and Back Again

Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“Who brought you water out of the flinty rock, who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end.”

(Deuteronomy 8:16)

Forward and Back Again

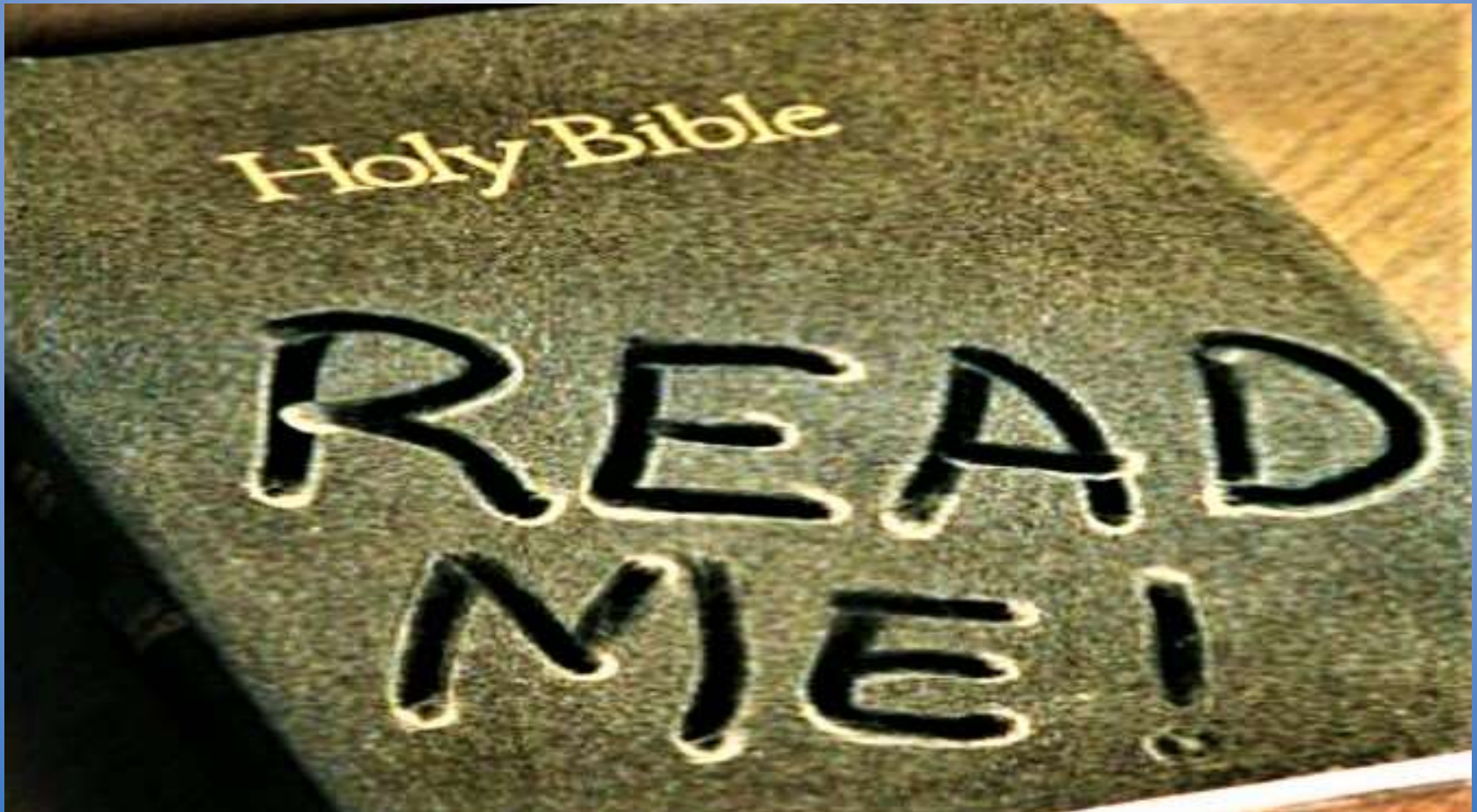
Our Past With God Is Vital For Our Future

“Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’

You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.” (Deuteronomy 8:17-18)

Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future



Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future

“Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who has endured such hostility by sinners against himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Hebrews 11:1-12:3)

Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future

“Be strong and courageous...the LORD is the one who goes ahead of you. He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:1-8)

Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future

“Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses my servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:7)

Forward and Back Again

The Past Witness of Scripture is Our Future

“This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.”
(Joshua 1:8)



A Time
for Every
Purpose
Under
Heaven