

KNOW THE TIMES — SEIZE THE DAY

Sunday, September 21, 2025 — CHRIST & CULTURE MOMENT — Pastor Andrew Coleman

KNOW THE TIMES:

1 CHRONICLES 12:32

"Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, 200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command."

Background:

Chapters 10-11	Recount <u>King Saul's death</u> and <u>King David's anointing</u>
Chapter 12	Lists those who joined David's forces at key moments
	vs 1-18 when David hides from Saul
	vs 19-22 when David was at Ziklag (the 12 Tribes)
	vs 23-40 when the nation gathers at Hebron to anoint David

Who was Issachar?

- Issachar was the ninth son of Jacob, the fifth born to Leah (Genesis 30:17–18).
- His name means *"he brings a reward"* or *"there is recompense."*
- His descendants became the tribe of Issachar, one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

"men who had understanding of the times" vs 32

- Hebrew: Insight, discernment, or skilled knowledge of the present situation.
- They could perceive political, social, and spiritual currents and interpret them in light of God's will and plan.
- Practically: they knew Saul's reign was over, and David was God's chosen king (v. 23 *"according to the word of the Lord"*).

"to know what Israel ought to do" vs 32

- This points to practical wisdom—translating discernment into action.
- While other tribes are praised for military strength, Issachar is praised for wisdom and counsel. They were leaders, not just fighters.

"200 chiefs, and all their kinsmen under their command" vs 32

- The "200 chiefs" : high-ranking men whose influence extended over many clans.
- Their unified counsel carried weight in steering the nation: INFLUENCE.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY:

The sons of Issachar symbolize the importance of spiritual discernment—reading the moment rightly and aligning with God's Word and kingdom plan.

Like them, we must value wisdom joined with obedience.

Like them, we must KNOW and LIVE God's Word if we are going to influence others.

SEIZE THE DAY:

EPHESIANS 5:15-16

15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

*10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 **Put on the whole armor of God**, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the **belt of truth**, and having put on the **breastplate of righteousness**, 15 and, as **shoes** for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. 16 In all circumstances take up the **shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; 17 and take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God**, 18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, 19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth **boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel**, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may **declare it boldly**, as I ought to speak.*

FOLLOW CHRIST — WE FOLLOW HIM IN DEATH LEADING TO LIFE.

JOHN 12:24-26 CHRIST GOES TO THE CROSS

*24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 **If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.***