## **Twelve Time-Wasting Thieves**

## **By Richard Baxter**

(1615-1691)

"Redeeming the time." Colossians 4:5

## "That you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way." Colossians 1:10

- **Thief 1.** One of the greatest time-wasting sins, consists of *idleness* or *sloth*.
- **Thief 2.** The next thief or time-waster, is *excess of sleep*.
- **Thief 3.** Another time-waster, is an inordinate adorning of the body.
- **Thief 4.** Another time-wasting thief, is unnecessary pomp and *extravagance* in household furniture and domestic entertainments.
- **Thief 5.** Another time-wasting sin, is needless *feastings*, *gluttony*, and *drinking*.
- **Thief 6.** Another time-waster, is *idle talk*.
- **Thief 7.** Another thief which would steal your time, is *vain and sinful company*.
- **Thief 8.** Another notorious time-wasting thief, is needless, *inordinate sports* and *games* which are masked with the deceitful title of *recreations*.
- **Thief 9.** Another time-wasting thief, is excess of worldly cares and business.
- **Thief 10.** Another time-waster, is vain, ungoverned and sinful thoughts.
- **Thief 11.** Another dangerous time-wasting sin, is the reading of *worthless books*, plays, romances, and novels. And also *unprofitable studies*, undertaken but for pride and vain-glory, or the pleasing of a carnal or curious mind.
- **Thief 12.** But the *master-thief* that robs men of their time, is *an unsanctified*, *ungodly heart*; for this loses time, whatever men are doing because they never intend to do anything for the glory of God.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do — do it all for the glory of God!" 1 Corinthians 10:31