

# IN THE SHADOW OF HOGAN'S MOUNTAIN

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## Time, What Happens in a Second?

Time is an interesting concept. When people are young, time seems less important unless they are waiting for Christmas morning, the start of a long-awaited trip, or listening to the ticking of the mantel clock anticipating discussion with parents about some youthful indiscretion. Time for some millennial parents may be measured in a hurried lifestyle marked by fast-food dinners on the way to sports, dance, and other scheduled children activities. Many post-millennial people don't wear watches, have pocket watches, or judge time by the position of the sun. They check the time on their cell phones or I pads to see if they have time to Facetime with friends two time zones away or read the most-recent Facebook or Instagram post. For baby boomers and older people, time may be marked through health care

appointments, upcoming 50th class reunions, visits from other generations, and hopefully meaningful activities that make a difference in the lives of others.

Time has been a mystery though out the history of man. St. Augustine said, "I know what time is until you ask me for a definition about it, and then I can't give it to you." Dictionaries define time as the indefinite continued progress of existence and events that occur in apparently irreversible succession from the past through the present to the future. Time is a component quantity of various measurements used to sequence events, to compare the duration of events or the intervals between them. This is a pretty fancy way of saying time is in the eye of the beholder. We have spent thousands of years attempting to measure time with sundials, hour glasses,

water clocks, quartz clocks, atomic clocks, and so on. We have had lunar calendars, Roman calendars, Gregorian calendars, and the Global Positioning System in coordination with the Network Time Protocol. We use terms such as minute, hour, day, week, month, fortnight, quarter, year, biennium, decade, generation, jubilee, lifespan, century, millennium, epoch, era, and eon to describe lengths of time. The second appears to be the standard shortest length of time, but if we really wanted to get technical we could talk nanoseconds, microseconds, milliseconds, and Planck time units. So how long is a second? Greek and Roman philosophers, people like Galileo, Einstein, Hawking, and others, tried to define time relationships with incomplete understanding.

Today, we talk about the best time of our lives, use medical advances to prolong our time on earth, attempt to roll back our looks through medical procedures, and dream of reversing time though the many movies based on time travel. Sometimes we are fixated on last second shots or last second field goals, instant replays, financial forecasts, and so on. Leaders talk about focus time, play time, connecting time, physical time, down time, and sleep time. Throughout history, a struggle has existed between science and religion to define time. Maybe it all revolves around the dash that occurs between our birth and death dates. A poem by Linda Ellis best describes how we use our time between birth and death. <http://www.linda-ellis.com/the-dash-the-dash-poem-by-linda-ellis-.html> I have heard several eulogies that used this composition. I suggest you take time to read her work which gives insights on how we use time.

Ok, let's get back to "the second" again. Maybe we can better define "how long is a second" by looking at what happens in a second or five seconds on our

earth. If you google, "how long is five seconds," you will find interesting factoids about what happens each 5 seconds in our world. Some include: about 21 babies are born in the world, the world population has a net gain of about 13 people, about 9 people die in the world, about 500 lightning strikes have struck the ground, and the sound of thunder travels one mile. Others include: the average person blinks, a woodpecker can hammer with its beak 12.5 times, the average person in the world makes \$.001, over five tons of edible food is thrown away in the United States, 375 McDonalds burgers are sold, 205,000 Facebook posts are posted, 23,000 tweets are posted, 35 LEGO sets are sold by retailers around the world, and about 80,000 pounds of trash is thrown away in the United States. Five of the 2 and a half billion seconds that you'll be alive (on average) have passed and 7,150,000,000 human hearts will beat.

So, what does all this information mean? Life is short in relative terms. Time is a gift and how we assign our time tells a great deal about us. We must cherish our moments in time for older life remembrances such as "that time when..." or "I had the time of my life." The greatest gift one can give someone is their time because when you give your time you are giving something that you will never get back! The essential point is we can make choices that affect the future, but we cannot make choices that affect the past. Yesterday is gone.

Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." - Mother Teresa

## Our State launches new BEER NC App

**GREENSBORO, NC** — BEER NC is a new app dedicated to helping you explore the growing craft beer scene in North Carolina. The app features every brewery in the state and is constantly updated. You can search for, save, and check in to breweries. BEER NC also has curated guides to breweries that fit your interests, such as breweries for runners, breweries near water, etc.

"Our State is excited to celebrate craft beer in North Carolina with the launch of our new BEER NC app," says Bernie Mann, publisher of Our State magazine.

"Craft beer is a booming industry in North Carolina, and our craft beer scene has so much more than just good beer. Many of the beers highlight ingredients grown right here in North Carolina, and the breweries have created a strong sense of community in cities and towns across the state. We're excited to see the industry continue to grow."



### BEER NC FEATURES INCLUDE:

- \* Directory featuring every brewery in North Carolina
- Personalized and localized experience for users
- \* Ability to connect with other North Carolina beer drinkers
- \* Timely information on in-progress, new, and existing breweries
- \* Social engagement
- \* Notes capability
- \* Continual updates and added features throughout the year

BEER NC is created by Our State and presented by Great Outdoor Provision Co.

### ABOUT OUR STATE

Each month, Our State magazine celebrates the very best of North Carolina from the mountains to the coast through lively storytelling and stunning photography. Our State reflects the beauty, nature, nostalgia, travel, and food of the state. It's the perfect source of information for those who've lived in North Carolina all their lives, those just becoming acquainted with the state, or those looking to visit or relocate. Published by Mann Media, Inc., the award-winning magazine reaches more than 1,103,520 readers each month, with subscribers in every state and nearly 30 foreign countries. Learn more by watching a 15-second video about Our State or by visiting ourstate.com.

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## Clover Bapt. Easter events

In celebration of the message of Easter, the choir and congregation of Clover Baptist Church is planning special opportunities for worship.

On Good Friday evening, April 14, an Easter Drama will be presented at 7 pm, and all seating is free for this worship event. Then, on Saturday evening, April 15, the drama will be presented in the form of a Dinner Theatre at 6 pm.

The meal will feature pork barbeque or chicken breast along with baked beans, cole slaw, roll, dessert, coffee, tea or water and the cost will be \$9 for adults and \$7 for children under age 12. Seating will be limited for the dinner theatre and reservations are required.

Reservations for the Dinner Theatre may be made by stopping by the church office or calling 828 396-2417 Monday - Thursday between the hours of 8:00 am and 2:30 pm. In addition, an Easter Sunrise Service is planned for 6:45 Easter Sunday morning to be followed by a fellowship breakfast and Sunday School at 9:45 am and morning worship at 11 am.

Pastor Childers said, "Everyone is encouraged to accept the opportunity to join in celebration and worship as we focus on the victory Christ won at Calvary." Clover Baptist Church is located at 100 Pinewood Road in Granit Falls just one mile off of Hwy 321 between Hickory and Lenoir. For additional information you may visit the church website at [cloverbaptistchurch.com](http://cloverbaptistchurch.com) or call the church office.

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