

## THE FORM OF THE MOST VALUABLE COMMODITY IS TIME

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### Introduction

Across moral philosophy, theology, and metaphysics, value is often treated as relative, contextual, or dependent on subjective desire. This argument asserts a universal, foundational truth: the highest and purest Form of value—the essence by which all value is judged—is Time.

#### 1. The Socratic Framework: What is a Form?

In the Socratic and Platonic tradition, a Form is the perfect, unchanging, pure archetype of a category. For any given concept (Justice, Beauty, the Good), there exists a Form that is more real, stable, and authoritative than its temporary expressions.

This argument extends that framework to value itself and proposes: there is a Form of Value, and its essence is Time.

#### 2. Time as the Substrate of All Action

Nothing meaningful that a being performs—moral, immoral, or neutral—can occur without time as a prerequisite.

You cannot repent, love, sin, reconcile, choose, heal, learn, or act at all without the existence of time.

Therefore, time is the enabling medium of all action. Without time, all action collapses into impossibility. This places time above every commodity, including health, wealth, material resources, and even knowledge, since all of those require time to be acquired, used, or restored.

#### 3. Time as the Only Irreplaceable Commodity

Most forms of value are in some sense renewable:

- money can be re-earned;
- relationships can be repaired;
- knowledge can be relearned;
- reputation can be rebuilt;
- health can sometimes be improved.

But time cannot be restored. Once a moment has passed, it is irretrievable. Its loss is absolute.

Thus time alone exists in a state of absolute scarcity. Scarcity alone does not create ultimate value, but irreversible and non-recoverable scarcity marks time as uniquely precious in a way no other resource

can claim.

#### 4. Time as the Currency of Moral Opportunity

Every moral opportunity—every chance to do good or avoid evil—requires time. Repentance requires time, growth requires time, and understanding requires time.

Scriptural narratives present God as:

- waiting;
- testing;
- delaying judgment;
- offering time to repent;
- promising future outcomes.

Even in the divine–human relationship, time is the medium through which moral growth, testing, and transformation occur.

Thus time is not merely a created background condition; it is God's chosen instrument for developing righteousness and revealing character.

#### 5. Time Underlies the Two Highest Forms of Action

In the Haimesian hierarchy of actions, two stand at the top:

- 1) resolving divine displeasure—any action that reduces or resolves God's anger when God is upset; and
- 2) self-preservation—any action that preserves one's own existence so that future moral and spiritual growth remain possible.

Both of these depend entirely on time.

You cannot reconcile with God without time.

You cannot preserve your existence without gaining more time.

You cannot improve, learn, transform, or fulfill the purpose of life without continued time.

Therefore, time is the Form that makes the highest Forms of action possible. It is the metaphysical floor beneath the entire hierarchy of actions.

#### 6. Time as the Boundary and Enabler of Free Will

Free will is meaningless without the possibility of:

- delaying a choice;

- weighing alternatives;
- reconsidering past actions;
- planning future actions;
- enduring consequences over time.

Every dimension of free will is temporally structured. Without time, there is no sequence, no before and after, and thus no real choice—only frozen being.

Time therefore is the Form that makes free will intelligible and functional. It is the stage upon which all real choice occurs.

## 7. Time as the Divine Test Medium

Within Michaelic Judaism and the broader Abrahamic vision, earthly life is a test and a journey. A test requires:

- sequence;
- duration;
- change;
- development.

All of these presume the existence of time.

God's judgment of a soul is not based on a single static instant, but on a life lived through time: decisions made, paths chosen, failures confronted, growth pursued, repentance embraced or resisted.

Time is thus the metaphysical classroom of the soul—the environment in which lessons are lived rather than merely lectured.

## Conclusion

Time fulfills every condition needed to qualify as the Form of the most valuable commodity:

- 1) All action—moral, spiritual, or practical—requires time to exist.
- 2) All moral development and spiritual growth require time as their medium.
- 3) Free will only operates within time.
- 4) Time is the only non-renewable commodity; its loss is absolute.
- 5) Time underlies the two highest actions in the Haimesian hierarchy: reconciliation with God and self-preservation.
- 6) Time is God's chosen arena for testing, training, and revealing the soul.

Therefore, time is the universal, purest Form of value: the foundation of action, morality, free will, and spiritual growth. Every other form of value—wealth, power, knowledge, status—derives its entire meaning and usefulness from the amount of time in which it can be pursued and applied.