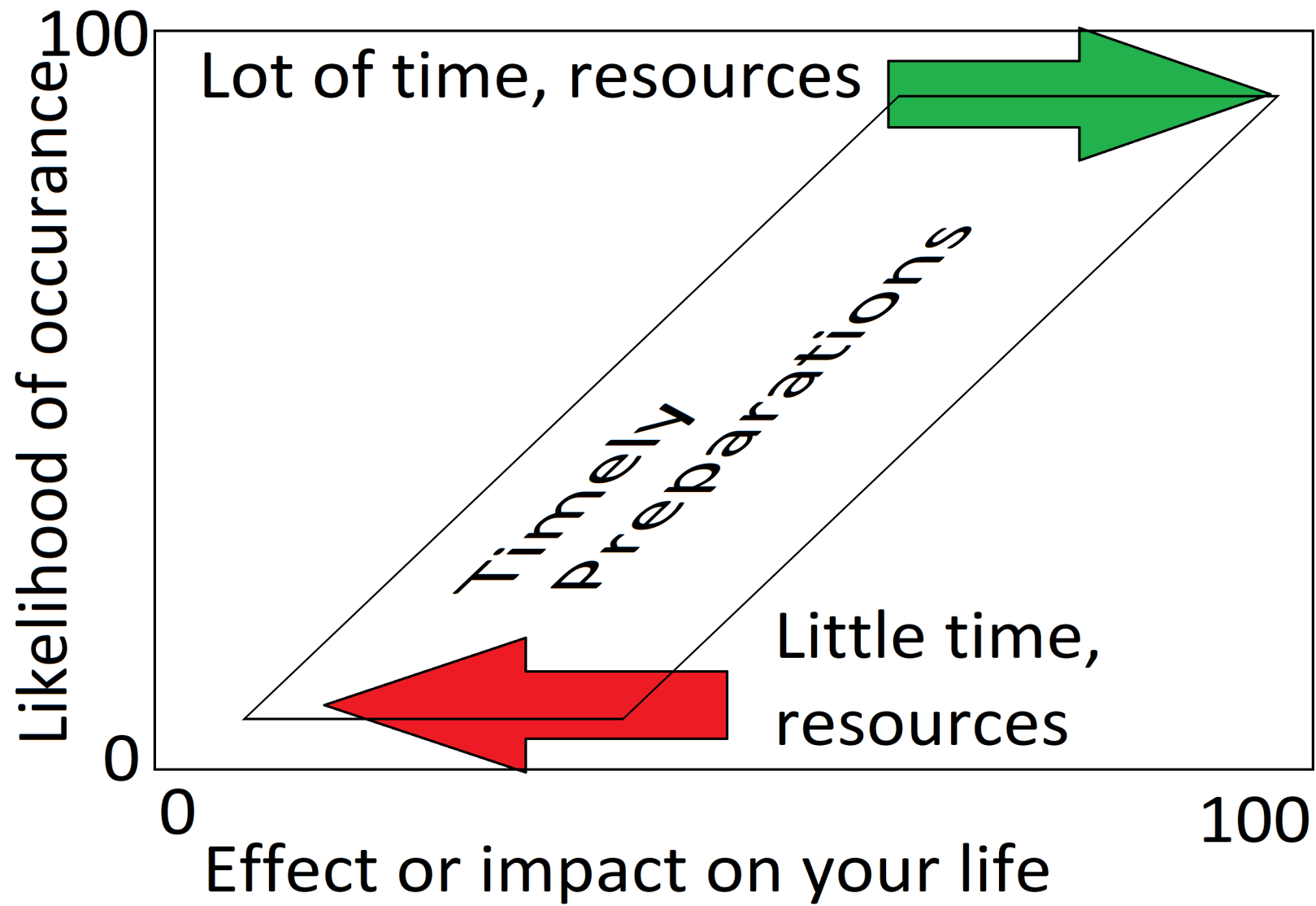


Preparations

from Latin: “before” and “make ready”
- God prepares a creation and a place for His children in heaven
Genesis 1, John 14

- Men also make preparations
Luk 12:20,21 treasure for ourselves on earth

-Mat 6:20 lay up treasure in heaven



God's preparations = evidence of His power, Godhood - Rom 1:20

- God prepared for us a temporal place (in TIME)
 - God defined how long things take. The days, seasons, years are set by God.
- Psa 90:10 The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,

Night and day we are bound by time and it's affects on us. Our perception may change, but not the effect. Job's days were swifter than a weaver's shuttle. Job 7:6

1b. Time to come

- Age to come – different rules in eternity
- Mat 22:29, 30 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.
- Luk 19:17 the faithful with 10 pounds will be in charge of 10 cities at the Lord's return.
- No death – 1Th 4:17, Rev 21:4
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God prepared earth

- God prepared what the atheist affirms always existed.
Gen 1:1
 - In the beginning (time), God (force), created (action) the heavens (space) and earth (matter)
 - Atheists argue “Space is nothing and not even God can create nothing”
 - Psa 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament show his handywork.
 - Challenge to atheists: The choice seems simple: either show how a structured, regular world could arise out of undirected processes, or inject intelligence into the system. —R. J. Hankinson

God prepared a place for Eternity and a kingdom from Eternity

- Joh 14:3 a place Jesus went to prepare like God prepared this universe. When Jesus
- Rev 21:2-10 the great city, holy Jerusalem prepared as a bride...
- Mat 25:34 some will inherit a kingdom prepared from the beginning.
- Who receives? Gal 4:7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

God prepared another place

- A bottomless pit Rev 9 and 20, the pit of the Abyss; a great furnace, a place prepared for Satan.
- Mat 25:41 The unfaithful at the judgment will also be exiled to the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:
- Lake of fire and brimstone Rev 20:10 a place of torment day and night forever. A place prepared to receive death and Hades (unseen realm). This is the second death Rev 21:8

God's preparations for eternity

- God wants to be with His people. Over 20 times He says: “and they shall be my people and I shall be their God”:
 - Exodus, Leviticus, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Romans, 2Cor 6:16,17; The new covenant prepared by God is for ONLY His children Heb 8:9-11
- The joy of the great supper Mat 22:2-14 “all come to prepared feast!” Vs 4, many called, few chosen vs 14. WHY is that?

We must make preparations

- Mat 25:14 Parable of the talents is given to show us the Lord's expectation for us to prepare while we live on earth.
 - Master is away – do we shirk our duty in His absence? He's coming! He's coming!
- Ignorance is no excuse.
 - Luk 12:47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not {himself}, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many {stripes}.

What to prepare

- The mind must be prepared to serve the King or suffer the King's wrath on a day not announced but surely coming.
 - Look again at Mat 25 - the 10 virgins
 - 5 prepared and 5 did not
 - 5 feared running out of oil and 5 did not
 - 10 all passed the time waiting... Before the master came, they all understood the bridegroom plans and were together.
 - The diligent could not help the lazy when the master came.
 - 5 entered the prepared feast, 5 did not.

What was the difference?

Time is a gift

- Eph 5:16, 17 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord {is}.
- Do we know God's will for us? Do we value God's preparations? Do we prepare ourselves to give account at the judgment?