

From Pastor's Desk...

Accept and Appreciate God's Perfect Timing

King Solomon became the wisest man in the World and influenced others throughout generations. Kings and leaders from other nations came to Jerusalem to learn from him. He lived a life in contrary to the practical insight he had. In a later stage of life, he looked back to God in humility and repentance. The negative and pessimistic tone of Ecclesiastes is the reflection of his realization that life under the sun he tested and tasted had been meaningless. The vanity of intellectual pursuits; pleasure, prestige and affluence; cycle of life and death; life's inequalities; popular religion and politics; passing riches and other things narrated throughout this book directs our minds to seek fulfilment and happiness in God alone.

God had made everything beautiful in its time. There is an appropriate time for each activity (Ecc.3:1). There is a predetermined season for everything and a fixed time for every happening. The sovereign God is eternal, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent and eternal. In God's book, all the days of our life were recorded by the divine Architect before that happens in a short span of life. Nothing can hinder the things destined by God. There are twenty-eight activities (3:1-8) which are probably intended to symbolize the whole round of life. It is suggested that the number twenty-eight is the number of the world (Four) multiplied by the number of completeness (seven). The list is made up of opposites, fourteen are positives and fourteen as negatives. This section reminds us that God has a plan for all people. He provides cycles of life, each with its work for us to do. We may face many challenges in life cycle as suffering, sickness, loneliness, discouragements, ups and downs that seem to contradict God's plan, these should be used as opportunities to stand straight to profess our faith that God is in control. God is still on the throne to carry out His purposes.

An old man recollected his memories, "how wonderful it was my childhood, life under the care of parents; how powerful it was my youth, I could do anything as I desired with number of friends; how influential it was my adulthood, my word was final in the community: now I am old and weak, live alone but lead a Godward life affirming the blessed hope that the Lord who began a good work in me will bring it into completion in His perfect time." There is a season for everything. Let us discover, accept and appreciate God's perfect timing in our life.

God bless you.

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There is an appointed Time for everything.

Br. Regi Varghese

What is Time? Human perception of time is events moving from past, present and then into the future.

When we think of the past, we only dwell in the past, for example on past mistakes. When we think of the future, we can only speculate what that will be like. As humans we should be more in the present.

There is however only one time that is "Now", present or urgent as written in the bible "Now is the accepted time. Now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

What then is the measurement of time according to the Bible?

The Bible says that with God "a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day" (2 Peter 3:8) just read the entire Psalm 90 and we can see time bound verses. Our God is the same yesterday today and forever so he is present in all the realms of time is what we know.

What then is the appointed time?

There is an appointment for all events. Just read Ecclesiastes chapter 3, and you can see that until that appointed time comes no event occurs. God already has a plan and purpose that is settled in heaven, but it is only a plan until it materializes in the appointed time.

Genesis 18:14 reads like this "Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son." Sarah had to wait for that appointed time to come. Hebrews 6:15 and so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised. Abraham waited roughly 25 years to bear Isaac his son as promised by God.

If Jesus first coming had an appointed time - Galatians 4:4 "but when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law", so also his second coming as King of Kings and Lord of Lords has an appointed time in the future and while we wait for that time in expectation, let us remember what is written as a promise Habakkuk 2:3 "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.

God bless you.