

# A Season for Every Activity Under Heaven

**October is the beginning of the seasonal changes that bring beautiful colors and cooler weather as part of God's provisions for His people. Solomon spoke of the seasons in Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8.**

- 1 There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
- 2 a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
- 3 a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,
- 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
- 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- 6 a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
- 7 a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
- 8 a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

**You may recall a song Pete Seeger wrote called turn, turn, turn back in the mid 60ies.**

The lyrics were taken from these passages. They were rearranged and paired with Seeger's music to make the song. In a 1988 interview with Paul Zollo, Seeger explained: "I don't read the Bible that often. I leaf through it occasionally and I'm amazed by the foolishness at times and the wisdom at other times. I call it the greatest book of folklore ever given. Not that there isn't a lot of wisdom in it. You can trace the history of people poetically."

Seeger added: "I got a letter from my publisher, and he says, 'Pete, I can't sell these protest songs you write.' And I was angry. I sat down with a tape recorder and said, 'I can't write the kind of songs you want. You gotta go to somebody else. This is the only kind of song I know how to write.' I pulled out this slip of paper in my pocket and improvised a melody to it in fifteen minutes. And I sent it to him. And I got a letter from him the next week that said, 'Wonderful! Just what I'm looking for.' Within two months he'd sold it to the Limelighters and then to the Byrds. I liked the Byrds' record very much, incidentally. All those clanging, steel guitars - they sound like bells." This song was a number 1 hit for the Byrds and many other popular artist recorded the song as well. Dolly Parton covered this on her 1984 album of cover songs The Great Pretender, and again in 2005 on Those Were The Days.

The song played a major role in one of Brother Bob's favorite movies Forrest Gump.

Solomon's point in these verses is that God has a plan for all people. Therefore, he provides cycles of life, each with its work for us to do. Although we may face many problems that seem to interfere with God's plan, they should not be barriers to believing in Him. They should be opportunities to discover that, without God, life's problems have no lasting solutions.

My guess is very few people back in the 60ies knew where these words came from, they sounded great but had no true meaning and if the song was a number 1 hit today even fewer people would know the words are from God himself.

This is the reason we have no lasting solutions for the problems we face in the world today.

More than 60 years have passed and the situation has gotten worse, not better.

A large portion of our people have forgotten God, many worship other God's and false profits. They do not have the time in our present society to worry with learning about God by reading His word.

This was not God's plan, this is the work of man himself doing things without putting their trust in Him. Proverbs 3: 5 says in very plainly, "**Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding**".

**Our command as Christians that have accepted the gift of salvation is to reach out to those people that are non-believers and to encourage those that have salvation to do the same.**

**With God anything is possible, if you want your future lineage to continue in the name of God we have to stand up and step out of our comfort zones and share the gospel to the world. Without God, this world will continue down that spiral path to the gates of hell.**

**God has showed His patients and mercy on His people for thousands of years and He will continue to do this but we know from His word that there will be an end time. Many scriptures refer to this time but only God knows when it will occur. Below are some clues from God's word.**

**2 Timothy 3:1-4**

**3 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. <sup>2</sup> People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—Do you think we there yet?**

**Luke 21:11**

**<sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. Have you seen any of this lately?**

**Matthew 24:7**

**<sup>7</sup> Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. The world has never been more divided, including our own country!**

### Revelation 3:3

**<sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. Wake up, the time is coming.**

I have taught the book of Revelation several times over the past few years. Revelation is very difficult to understand, a large part of the scripture is symbolic and was prophesied in the Old Testament.

In my struggles for understanding I ask Brother Bob, what was his take away on Revelation, expecting something profound that I may understand he simply said two words....**BE READY!** If anyone asked me the same question today the answer would be the same **"BE READY!"**

Are you ready?

The question I always asked to the inmates in prison and to those who know they don't have salvation is, "what do you have to lose by accepting Jesus in your heart". You have everything to Gain!

Sorry for the sermon but I felt like the time is appropriate to express these thing to those I love.

Rob

