

Tis The Season

Before I read our scripture I want to define what is a season.

Season is defined Biblically as a *time marked by a certain activity*.

When seasons change wise people adapt.

When it is winter we adapt, when it becomes summer we adapt again.

We change our clothing we alter our activities. In summer we work in the yard and head to the beach. But in winter we hang out by the coffee maker and maybe head to the sloops.

We don't walk around in August wearing January clothing and we don't typically go swimming in January.

There is an amazing yet obscure verse I want us to read.

1Ch 12:32 (MKJV) 32 And from the sons of Issachar, **men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do,** the heads of them were two hundred. And all their brothers were at their command.

This was a time of transition. The turning of the seasons.

Transition time is the most dangerous time.

I heard a pilot say that the most dangerous time in any flight is the moment when the plane is transitioning from the ground to the sky.

When one season is ending and the other is not quite yet this is a dangerous time.

Make no mistake about it the future offers no security only uncertainty.

None of us know what tomorrow may bring.

No matter how well you plan, how much money you save, or how well you prep tomorrow offers only uncertainty.

Great potential for the brave - great concern for the fearful

But for both the fearful and the fearless life can change in a second and I will show you that in just a moment.

I have a teaching entitled, "I don't know moments" in which I discuss how to navigate through the transition times.

The times when many grow weary and shrink back.

You remember what the Children of Israel did when they were transitioning out of the known and into the unknown?

Leeks & Onions, Whips & chains suddenly looked really good.

When you are in between, what used to be looks a whole lot like what oughta be.

And so you look backward.

Heb 10:39 (NASB) 39 But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction....

Lets take another look at..

1Ch 12:32 (MKJV) 32 And from the sons of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, the heads of them were two hundred. And all their brothers were at their command.

Note #1 because they understood the time they know what ought to be done

Note: #2 all their brother were at their command. The man without a plan will always be subject to the man with a plan.

They had adhered to Saul and knew when they were to throw their support behind David but knew not to do it too soon.

When you understand the times of your life you will know the best course to take.

If you don't know what season it is you don't know what to do

If you don't what season it is you are probably doing the wrong thing and you are probably doing it with the wrong person

When you know the season you know the right thing to do

When you don't know what season you are in you waste time trying to do the wrong thing and wondering why it won't work.

When God says fear not you know He knows what is coming

When God says prepare yourself you better get ready cause he knows what is coming.

Years ago while we were living overseas we went through several transitions with our home office.

Everybody loves the idea of ministry until they discover it's a lot of WORK.

So one day I was minding my business and the Lord spoke to me telling me to contact a new person to manage our stateside affairs. He told me that the person who was doing it had a life change and no longer found managing our office convenient.

We were about to change seasons

So I listened, I obeyed and in a few days the call came.

Now if I had not adapted we would have been damaged, but because I listened and adapted it was a seamless transfer.

Hidden inside of a well known passage is a lesson on the necessity of knowing your seasons

Psa 23:1-4 (NASB)

1 A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.

3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Imagine this as a movie.

The Title: The boy who would be King.

Scene one: Green pastures. Quiet Water. Everything is serene, peaceful and cool.

Action: Resting. Restoration and Refreshing.

Scene two: A dark dangerous valley with death lurking and hiding behind ever rock.

Action: Walking

The action had changed cause the season had changed.

Imagine what if what if David had not recognized his seasons. What if in the Season of Rest he had been working it hard, 7-12's, no rest. Only weariness. He would have entered the next season exhausted.

He would not have had the energy to move through the season.

Perhaps death would have caught him.

But because he rested in the season of refreshing he had the energy to push through the season of danger.

I want you to notice how quickly everything changed. Without warning and without reason.

When seasons change we sometimes don't know what to do

Its what you do when you don't know what to do that determines what you get to do

Ecc 3:1-8 (NLT) For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.

The why of time. For every purpose / activity under heaven.

If it's a thing it has a season.

Note: Under Heaven, not in Heaven

God created time, He put man in time, but God lives outside of time.

God created the stuff He doesn't live in it we do

Everything has a time and the time gives it purpose and direction.

Time was created for purpose to be fulfilled.

Time manifest itself in seasons. This is why a missed season is a missed opportunity and wasted time.

How does God measure time?

He measures your life in terms of purpose.

Not by the years you have lived.

Growing old could incriminate you.

God never ask how old are you. God's question is always what did you do

Life is never measured by duration but by donation

It's not how long did you live its what did you do while you were alive.

If life is measured in terms of time then time wasted if life abused.

Wasted time is wasted life

Time without purpose is life without meaning

We measure our short brief journey on earth in terms of time

Time is an interruption in eternity

Time can be measured eternity can not

Ecc 3:2 A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. [3] A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. [4] A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. [5] A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. [6] A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to keep and a time to throw away. [7] A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak. [8] A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.

The question we must all answer do we know what season we are in cause we are all in a certain season.

Ecc 3:11 (AMPC) 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He also has planted eternity in men's hearts and minds [a divinely implanted sense of a purpose working through the ages which nothing under the sun but God alone can satisfy],...

God has give every task its own time and time enough to fulfill its purpose

When the thing done is done in its time is a thing of beauty fulfilling its purpose.

The key to success no matter what we do for a living is to do the right thing at the right time.

- A farmer who sows his fields at harvest time is doing the right thing at the wrong time.
- An investor who sells his stock when everyone is buying

- A mature adult who continues to act like in immature child all have the same thing in common they will FAIL!

Moses killed an Egyptian ahead of time

Samuel nearly missed David cause he couldn't let go of Saul

Many missed Jesus

Luk 19:44 (NASB) 44 and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because [for the reason that, by cause of] you did not recognize **the time** of your visitation.”

When we are out of season we make bad decisions and wrong choices.

As we bring this to a close the all consuming question, “How do we know what season we are in?”

I have 2 words for you. You'll want to write these two words down.

1. **Holy**
2. **Ghost**

We all need to develop a relationship built on communication with the Holy Ghost.

Joh 16:13 (TPT)13 But when the truth-giving Spirit comes, he will unveil the reality of every truth within you. He won't speak his own message, but only what he hears from the Father, and he will reveal prophetically to you what is to come.

The Spirit of Grace will always tell you what season you are in and what season you about to enter into.