**GOD’S APPOINTED TIMES AND SEASONS**

**HE HAS A SEASON FOR YOU**

***Written By: Tommy Romans January 2019***

Our Bible teaches us in **Ecclesiastes 3:1** (that) To everything there is a Season, and a Time to every **purpose** under the heaven:

 **2** - A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; **3** - A time to break down, and a time to build up; **4** - A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; **5** - A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

 6 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

Our great God and Heavenly Father wants us to know by reading the above Scriptures that He has a Purpose and a plan for each and every one of us here in this world. We are here for a reason. He wants us to really know, Love and serve Him. The Lord is also teaching us and letting us know there’ll be good times and bad. We will surely have our ups and downs in life. There will be times of Joy & laughter but also sorrows and tears. There’ll be times we will rejoice and other times our hearts will break but thank God the bad times won’t last always. It’s plain to see that there are Times and Seasons in our life both bad and good from the time we are born to the time we die and each of us will pass through them. It is in these times that our Merciful Lord reveals Himself, He will speak to us if we will only listen. So, fear not Child, God will never leave us, He always brings us through those hard times. I’m so glad the Lord will reveal Himself to us if we will trust and obey Him. We must know that the Lord has Appointed Times and Seasons in which He moves and works in for our benefit.

**LET NATURE SPEAK TO US**

Just look for a moment how God speaks to us in Nature! Our Majestic Lord has showed us His Divine work in the earth’s 4 Seasons of Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Can I say - literally speaking, it is Winter right now – (January), but hold on, Spring time is coming? Even the animals that God has made and given life

to, know this fact. In their very breast there is a longing, they desire and look forward to Spring and Summer. In the freezing cold when everything around them is dead and challenging, they long for the Sun’s strong smile to bring forth new life of blooms and green. My aim in this Newsletter is to use the natural to get us to see the Spiritual. It may be Spiritual Winter time in your Life right now, but it’s just a phase, a space of time you will pass through. So, hold on – new life will break forth in the Spring and your Springtime is coming! It will not always be dark and cold where you are walking. You’ll not always have to break the ice - the sun is going to shine again on your path!

**THE FOWLS KNOW THEIR SEASONS**

 I have several bird feeders in my back lawn. I feed my birds mixed seed, ground corn and black oil Sunflower seeds. On the cold days when the ground is frozen and they are eating at my feeders, you don’t hear a chirp or song out of them. But on the warm sunny days when the temperature is in the mid 60’s or more, I watch them as they flutter about – they feast and begin to sing around my home. Do you know why? The sun’s warm rays have awakened something deep inside them, in their little hearts, that (something) is letting them know that their winter season won’t last always – it will soon pass - Springtime is Coming! The warm South wind will blow again and the waters will thaw, the ground will soften and the cold winter will pass! All of life’s Creation, nature and the elements pass through their Seasons and so will we!

Don’t ever forget, we are much higher than the animals! We are made in the very image of God, a little lower than the Angels! No matter what you face or ever go through, remember, God is aware, He knows and sees you. We will all go through cold hard times but He knows right where you are and if you keep praying and trusting Him, He will visit you in your Season of trial. You must be Sensitive and recognize the time and season when the Lord begins to move. He has certain times that He works in and you don’t want to miss your opportunity in His visitation. Be aware of His Presence in your situation. Listen when He speaks. Look for those times He gives you a token and a sign. He may send someone your way with a word of encouragement or a message through the preacher that brings you Hope. Your answer may be in the hand of a friend that God has sent to help and give. Your inspiration may come in a Song that lifts your heart - bringing tears to your eyes and a gladness that keeps you holding on.

Look for the little things Child of God, He’s right there where you are. Don’t ignore the little things, they will hold you until your blessing comes and your Season changes. **Zech. 4:10** – “Don’t despise the Day of Small things!” If you miss His visit and Time of dealing today, it may be a considerable amount of time before the Lord makes His circuit back around to visit you. In the midst of your trouble, always listen for His voice, reach for Him and desire His presence. **Heb. 4:7** – As it is said: Today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. There’s a song God’s people sing – “You got to move, you got to move; now when the Lord gets ready – you got to move!” You must be receptive to Him and move when He does or you will miss your Season of Blessing.

Rest assured, God’s Divine Appointments will surely come. You will know it when the Lord shows up in your life. He will surely visit you, but you must make very sure you don’t miss your Season. We must Prepare our hearts in Prayer by seeking Him, reading and meditating in His Word. Can I tell you dear reader, God knows your need but you must long for Him and desire Him to visit you! **Ps. 27:14** – Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: Wait, I say, on the Lord.

**Gal. 6:9** – And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due Season we shall reap if we faint not. (Can you say as you read this: “Dear Jesus, I am waiting on you to move and fix the things that I can’t. I don’t have the ability, I don’t have the strength or all the answers, but you do! You can move and touch. I look to you in this situation and time of need.)

 O dear Soul, look to God – Trust Him and Love Him and your Season will come! Many people right now are going through a Night Season, a dark time in their life. The Psalmist David said in **Ps. 30:5** – Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. **Ps 130:5** - I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his Word do I Hope.

 **6** My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

 I say to my readers – your long Night Season will pass. Just hold on, the shadows will flee, night will turn to day and the Sun will shine again – it’s just a season! Like the chorus of a Gospel Song says: “Ride out your storm, God’s right there with you; you may not feel Him, but you’re not alone: You’re hurting now, but your Morning is coming, Just hold on to Jesus and ride out your storm.”

 Ask the farmer and he will tell you that he cannot go out and sow his seed on the frozen ground. He has to wait until God thaws it. The arrival of the sun’s warm rays and increased light will surely warm the ground and soften it. On the shortest day of the year – Dec. 21st, the Sun sets at 4:30 pm and doesn’t rise again till 8 am. That’s a little over 8 hours of daylight. That means that the Night is far longer – 16 hours of darkness, but don’t worry, the Sun is going to make its circuit back around! Just hold on - the long nights will pass and the bright sunny days will get longer. The Spring rains will come again, the streams will sing, the ground under your feet will warm – the Flowers will bloom. Your steps will be soft again! Ye shall sow your seeds and reap a harvest.

 I can’t look through my frosted window when it’s 18 degrees and see pretty apples on my fruit tree in the back lawn. So, it is the same in our Spiritual life and soul. We go through times that we feel dead and cold. But Oh when the Lord comes, the winter season will pass, the Son of God will warm our Heart and we will reap with Joy!

**GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH**

**THE TREES**

 Did you know that the Lord compares us, His Children to Trees? **Isa 61:1** ¶ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; **3** - To **Appoint** unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the Garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called “Trees of Righteousness”, the planting of the LORD. God has an Appointment for you dear reader. He knows when to visit you and how to renew, revive and refresh you!

 The Biologists and Horticulturalist will tell you in their study of Trees – they have their Seasons they pass through. There can be no real growth, Blooms or Fruit without passing through a time of coldness and death. In every tree’s life, there has to be a Season when it goes into a state of inactivity and lifelessness and it remains there until it becomes rejuvenated. There’s no resurrection without death. God speaks to us in the Autumn leaves and the barren limbs of the trees during the cold winter. To look at the trees, they look dead, but don’t worry, they are just going through a phase. God ordained it that way. The Horticulturalist will tell you the trees go into a state of rest in the cold winter in which they are preparing for the next year of growth.

When Fall comes and winter approaches, the days get shorter and the nights longer, the Sap slowly begins to leave the limbs, flows back down the trunk and back into the Roots. A little cork like substance forms at the base of the stem of each leaf where it connects to the limb. The chlorophyll in each leaf draws from the light of the Sun, therefore producing food for the leaves and keeps them vibrant and green. But when the long nights and frost comes, the chlorophyll breaks down and it can’t feed the leaf. They shrivel up and die and fall to the ground.

Remember Child of God, the Lord is saying to us that we too pass through cycles. We go through Seasons of time in our Spiritual life and service to the Lord when we feel like we are not productive, but have become dormant and inactive. Every child of God, every minister and worker will go through these phases. If a Tree could talk to you, it would say – don’t count me out! Don’t mark me off and say I have nothing! Don’t whisper and tell everybody that I’m dead – it’s just a Season. It’s Winter time now but Spring is coming! You might say of us Trees that we are empty, barren and naked and that We’ve lost our beautiful Garment of Praise and that us Trees of the woods don’t clap our hands anymore when the Wind blows through our branches. You may say – we have no comeliness, no leaves to make music when God breathes on us. But remember, it’s just a cycle – the Sap is still in the Root – we are just waiting on the Sun! There’s still life in the Root. The Heart of that tree is its Root. The long nights will soon give way to increased light. The sun is going to shine its warm rays upon us and draw the Sap back out of the Root. We are going to bear again. Just wait and you’ll see us Bloom again and bear fruit!

 Every man, woman, boy and girl will go through seasons! Thanks be unto the Lord that these quiet times of stalemate doesn’t remain – the Season will Change! There are lessons to be learned as we go through these times. It teaches us patience and we learn to trust and wait on God! We realize we can do nothing without Him. There are seasons of trial, seasons of blessing, seasons of productivity and seasons when we feel dormant and fruitless. When God calls to you Child, you must rise. The Spiritual Sun will make its circuit back around and shine on you again! When your time comes and He visits you, you must answer. You must move when He does. Grasp the moment, take advantage of your opportunity when the Spirit of God comes by your way. You cannot afford to miss your Season! I sure don’t want to be left in a state of deadness!

 Dear reader, if you feel you are in a lull, a place of lifelessness where you feel dead – keep Praying and remain Faithful unto God and His word, keep going in your service for Him and your Time will come! Your vigor and strength will return and joy renewed. Your Season will Change! I have surely seen people miss it through the years. They let up in the dry spells when they saw no fruit. It was only a Season of trial for them but they got discouraged and gave up.

 There are Seasons to be Saved as well as Seasons to be Healed. Thank God there are times of Restoration. When the Holy Ghost is moving and the Spirit of God touches a person’s heart and deals with Conviction, that becomes their time & Season to be Saved. **Acts 3:19** – Repent ye therefore, and be Converted, that your Sins may be blotted out, when the “times of refreshing” shall come from the presence of the Lord. There are **Times** of Refreshing.

**THE MAN AT THE POOL**

 In **John 5:1-9**, John tells about a Pool called Bethesda near the sheep market. An Angel went down at a Certain Season and troubled (Stirred) the water. When the Angel touched the waters, they became charged with Healing Virtue by the Spirit of God. A great multitude of folk waited around the Pool for the Angel to stir the water. No-one knew when or what Season the Angel would come, so they all waited and waited. When the Angel was sent and the people saw the Moving of the Water, whoever stepped in first into the Pool was healed and made whole. John said a great multitude of impotent folk – the blind, halt and withered lay around that pool.

 You just can’t imagine the hopeless cases of humanity that were there, just waiting. People who were believing, yet despairing and disappointed because they saw someone else beat them into the pool and get healed. Here in this group of people laid a man paralyzed who had an infirmity and was unable to move or walk for 38 long years. How long he was carried and left there by loved ones or friends, we don’t know. But month after month he waited, watched and hoped. So, this particular day, here he laid on his cot. What a picture of hopelessness. We just can’t imagine the heart-break when the Angel came and went and the Season to be healed was gone as others got their answer, their touch and he was left on his cot. Discouraged? Yes! Yet, he desired with all his heart to be healed or he wouldn’t have been there. **Prov. 13:12** – Hope deferred (delayed) maketh the Heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

 Then one day, one certain glorious day, along came Jesus! THANK GOD! **Jn. 5:6** – And when Jesus saw him lie, and knew he had been now a long time in that case, He said unto him, wilt thou be made whole? (Jesus was saying – sir, I know all about you, I see your efforts, I know the longing of your heart! I have come by your way today, just for you. It is your Season, do you want to be healed and made whole?) The paralyzed man answered and said – “Sir, I have no man when the water is troubled to put me in the Pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. (Dear Jesus, the others always get in before I can get there. I have tried over and over and have hoped for my Season to come that I may enter that Healing water.)”

Oh what a Saviour, Oh what a Caring Physician. This man’s efforts and desire throughout the years never went unnoticed by the Lord! Jesus didn’t send the Angel this time, He came in person to this poor man who longed to be healed. Jesus looked downed at the man and said – **Vs. 8** – Rise, take up thy bed and walk. **Vs. 9** – And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed and walked! Thank God, this man’s Season came. His deliverance came when he rolled up his cot and walked home telling others – “I met Jesus today! He came to me!”

As I finish typing this Newsletter, I don’t know all the many needs out there, but I’m sure there are many different ones – physical, mental, financial and Spiritual. Some of you no doubt are tired and weary. Some are suffering battle fatigue. Others are hurting, hoping for break-throughs and answers to prayer in many situations. I encourage you not to give up but hold on – the sun is coming up over the horizon. Your Lord is COMING!

Our Lord still walks the dark hills, the high-ways and by-ways. He walks through the billows of life’s troubled sea. He walks through the cold dark night – the shadows of midnight. He walks everywhere by night and by day. He walks in the storm, the rain and sunshine, across rivers and valleys so wide, He does it all because He loves you and me. He sees you and knows right where you are. He’s heard your cry! Jesus came down the dusty road by blind Bartimaeus’ way to give him new sight; He passed by the Sycamore tree Zacchaeus was waiting in to bring Salvation; He went across the sea just for one tormented man of Gadara to give him deliverance and peace of mind; We find Him at Lazarus’ tomb when it looked like all hope was gone to bring him back from the dead; He came to a well for one lonely woman who came for water and He gave her Living Water to drink for her empty soul!

This is our Merciful God at work. Everyone that has been Saved, blessed and Healed will tell you – “My Season came!” Jesus still knows how to turn your weeping into laughter and your mourning into dancing. **Ps 130:5** ¶ I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. MAY GOD BLESS MY READERS!!