

nov 29

"to everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted." eccl 3:1-2 i don't know why the Lord is prompting me to begin with that verse. perhaps is to reinforce the fact things are not always random. there is an order to all things in God's world. He is a God of order and not chaos. what remains to be determined is whether or not we are willing to get our lives in order.

i had a friend years ago. she wanted me to do her up a sign to put on her wall. it said, "let go and let God". how many times do we rush into a situation to see that something gets accomplished? we often feel that if we don't do it, it won't get done. while that may be often true, there are times when we just need to trust the Lord to work things out. "in your patience possess ye your souls." luke 21:19

this is spoken by our Lord of a time when the people are suffering great persecution and betrayal. yet He urges them to be patient. "blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake." matt 5:11 the thing is, are you being persecuted because you rushed in, or are you genuinely being persecuted for defending the truth?

i think this all goes back to "waiting on the Lord". "wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, i say, on the Lord." psa

27:14.

i don't really know why i am saying all this. this was not what i planned to write about. but you know what they say: "the best-laid plans of mice and men oft go astray." i just know the Spirit is not bound by our wishes. "the wind blows wherever it pleases. you hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. so it is with everyone born of the Spirit." john 3:8 perhaps there is someone out there who needs to hear this right now. is the Spirit talking to you.

in the hebrew language, which is the language of the old testament, there is no hebrew word for "coincidence". some religious people see coincidents as miracles, but atheists see it as random events that happen to occur. is it just a coincidence when you wake up one morning and suddenly remember someone you haven't thought of in years? or is that person in need of prayer? is it a coincidence when you decide to take a different route and later discover you avoided a terrible accident. one where you would have likely been killed.

i believe these are gentle urgings of the Holy Spirit. the believing heart learns to be sensitive and obedient to these while the unbelieving just toss them aside; often at their own peril. "the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. for since the creation of the world God's invisible

qualities – His eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." rom 1:18-28

there will be no excuses when we stand in judgement before God; only regrets that one did not heed the warnings given. "this is the verdict: light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil." john 3:19 there comes a point, and God knows when, that a person is given over and the Holy Spirit will no longer convict them. "furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done." rom 1:28

the thing is, our God is loving and patient. "instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 pet 3:9 yes, there will be none able to make excuse before our God. He is firm but just. His wrath will have been earned.

now that i have got all that off my chest, a brief note about what i thought i was going to be talking about. i watched the gaither gathering for thanksgiving last night. i found it so enjoyable. men and women crying as they worshiped the Lord in song and music. one could certainly feel the Spirit moving. they also showed some old clips of believers who have long since departed. departed, but loved and missed. would that we all could leave such a witness.

we know that probably satan was in charge of music in heaven. "you were in Eden, the garden of God; every

precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. the workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created." eze 28:13 all of God's creations were made perfect. his beauty was such that he sought to usurp his creator. at that point, his music became corrupted like him.

God's music remains incorruptible, pure and holy. one could certainly feel it in this night of worship. if you have three and a half hours to spare, you might check it out here on youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YS0kqxfSWWc> just pure old gospel music. i know everyone's taste is not the same, but mine lies here. whatever you do, we just want God's people blessed.

linda