

Enjoying the Season Part 3
Timing
12/22/2019

- Trusting God's timing
- Timing is important

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."

Luke 2 (NLT) At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

God's Timing:

1st) Learn to **ACCEPT** it.

Luke 2:1-2 (NLT) At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

- Good News

Luke 2:10 (NIV) But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

- Frosted Flakes extend life expectancy!

A) - God's timing is always **PERFECT**

Ecc. 3:1 (NASB) There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven—

Ecc. 3:1 (TEV) "Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses."

Gal. 4:4-5 (GNT) But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's children.

- Look at Jesus

Matt. 1:21 (NIV) She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

- Sin is fun until it isn't

B) God's timing is subtly **REVEALED**

Ecc. 3:11 (NCV) "God has given us the desire to know the future. He always does everything just right and on time, but people can never completely understand what God is doing."

- God, by his grace, gives me glimpses of what he's doing but never the big picture -
- God gives us signs to draw us to himself
- I usually see what God was doing after he's done it

Mark 1:2-3 (NLT) Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way. He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him!'

C) God's timing is **SLOW**

2 Peter 3:8 (NLT) But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day.

Psalms 46:10 (NIV) Be still and know that I am God

D) God's timing is **INSTANT**

- At the right time, God can do anything instantly.

Isaiah 60:22 (GNT) Even your smallest and humblest family will become as great as a powerful nation. When the right time comes, I will make this happen quickly. I am the Lord!",

- God's waiting room.
- God wants us to learn to be present where we are
- I have a tendency to want to be in the next thing so much that I can't enjoy the thing I'm in

Isaiah 49:8(MSG) "When the time's ripe, I answer you.

2nd) Learn to **TRUST** it.

Luke 2:4-5 (NLT) And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

- Panic!
- Fear!

Matt. 1:20b (AMP) "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid...

Romans 10:17 (NIV) Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ

- The opposite of fear is faith.

Mark 5:36 (AMP) Overhearing what was being said, Jesus said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid; only keep on believing [in Me and my power]."

- Trusting God is the number one stress reliever in your life

Psalms 31:14-15 (NIV) "I trust in you, Lord. You are my God and my times are in your hands."

- Asking for something in prayer is the number two stress reliever in your life.
- Don't set a time limit on it.

Psalms 69:13 (CEV) "I pray to you, Lord, so when the time is right, please answer me and help me with your wonderful love."

3rd) Learn to **WAIT** on it.

Luke 2:6 (NLT) And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.

- Be patient and humble.
- Worry
- Stress
- Anxiety
- Irritability

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." -Oliver Wendell Holmes

- Bitterness, anger, and disappointment are all negative feelings that emanate from our past.
- Anxiety and fear are emotions that are experienced in anticipation of our future.
- Finding rest and peace in Christ.

Luke 12:29, 31 (NLT) "And don't be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don't worry about such things ... Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need"