

The word of the Lord has been coming to us instructively. *Galatians 4:1* says the heir is under tutelage until the time appointed by the Father. As people of God we must be people acquainted with the time appointed by the Father. Each time and each moment have a distinctive purpose and the trumpet that blow at each time is only but a pointer to a specific time. As people of God we must be very sensitive to be Intune with Gods agenda for a specific matter. *Habakkuk 2:1-2* says the vision is for an appointed time, because it shall surely come and not tarry. It is important to not go ahead of God's timing. God has a set time for everything, *Ecclesiastes 3:1*, there is need for sensitivity. Regarding sensitivity to the times, there are often two sides of the coin: there is a side of not being too quick and also not being too late.

The emphasis right now is not being too late. *John 9:4* speaks about working the work of God while it is day. *Isaiah 55:6-7* speaks of a time where the Lord can be found. There is a time where seeking the Lord brings an answer. There is a time when the Lord can be found. Following the words coming up recently, there is an emphasis on building/ planting at this time. There is an emphasis of building spiritual and physical stature (emotional, psychological stature). We should be careful not to try to build in harvest time. We are enjoined to apply ourselves to this building time. It will not always remain this way. The people of Israel did not need to journey for 40 years. *1 Corinthians 10:11*. We should not be caught up in the place of waiting, not knowing that the cloud of glory has moved. We need to enter into the train moving.

We will look at key stories of people who missed the appointed time. *Songs of Solomon 5:1-7*. This bride did not have to go through beating and a loss of her veil if only she was sensitive to the time the Lord set for her. Sometimes, our excuse is that we are praying about it and due to lack of sensitivity, we miss the move of the Spirit. There is something called the leading within the leading. This is the individual leading within the leading of the local assembly. E.g. if God tells the church to move in February, He may lead an individual on February 1st, another 15th, etc. If the Lord is leading His church in one direction and it seems yours in a different direction, watch it. These are

not the times to be presumptuous, there was a time for that. These are the times to do things within the safety and consideration of the body, *Ephesians 5:15*.

In *Matthew 25:1-4*, we see the wise and the foolish virgins. The wise ones had extra oil, but the foolish did not have. We see the heart of the foolish virgins were actually set on seeing the bridegroom because they actually left to go buy the oil as opposed to giving up, but it was too late by the time they got back. During the time when the wise were carrying extra oil, the foolish virgins most likely did not think they were foolish. If anything, they might have thought they were wise. None of them thought the bride groom was going to be late. *Romans 1:22* speaks of some people who professing themselves to be wise, will become fools.

Another example is the Story of Jesus when He visited the people. *Luke 19:41- 44* shows Jesus weeping over Jerusalem because He saw a people who were not prepared at the appointed time. The trumpet that has been coming has been giving a distinctive sound. May our hearts not be hardened and may we apply our hearts for the time to come.

There is a story of a donkey which was hungry and thirsty as well. Food and water were kept between the donkey. The donkey was salivating between the water and the food and was double minded. It did not know which to take first. It kept looking between the both and died of starvation. We cannot be double minded or confused regarding our part to play in the body. Give yourself to one thing and work on it. Let us not be found idle. If it is not for you, you will know. This could apply to spiritual things, finding your place in the body. It could also apply to things in the natural, career wise, etc. *Luke 2:52* shows Jesus increasing in wisdom, in stature with God and Man. Jesus was a very good Carpenter. Spiritually speaking, He was a builder. If he was not building things, in the spiritual, perhaps He wouldn't have mastered skills necessary to build the House of the Lord.

The emphasis again is taking the things of God seriously, not allowing procrastination and applying what the Father has given, *Luke 16:13*. Just as the servant was wise in *Luke 16:8-11*. Jesus said the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of Light. This was in context

of the Wise servant who was street smart. *Luke 16:10-11* shows if you are faithful in little, you are faithful in much. There is something known as true riches which is Eternal. *Ephesians 3:8-9* speaks of the unsearchable riches of Christ, but there is an instruction to be diligent on the mundane things that you are doing, *Ecclesiastes 9:10*; these include our education, careers, etc.

Being faithful does not equate to serving. We are expected to serve God and be faithful to Him. Serving something means that thing has control over you and gives you direction. There is an error when the unrighteous mammon has control over you. Being faithful is giving your time and diligence, *Colossians 3:23*. This is the reason the sons of this world are wiser; a lot of the time, the sons of light are slothful in business. We will give account on not just the things of this kingdom but every work we do. God has made each one of us custodians of wealth and/or skills. We need to use the things from this earth to push the agenda of the Kingdom so that when these things are destroyed, we will have rewards in the World to come. Whatever you do here will have an effect in the things of the Kingdom, *Revelations 14:13*. I once told a person that those who will make it to the first fruit company are those who made first class. However, it depends on when the knowledge came to you, if you were not in school when the knowledge came, then God will have mercy. The point is we need to be diligent in whatever our hands find to do. This applies to us whether at work or school. *Revelations 14:13* shows that our works follow us.

The burden for the message is Grace redefined: A second look at Grace according to the new testament provision, knowing that the new testament is not just an era, but a person. Looking at *Genesis 18:14*, we see there is nothing too hard for the Lord to do and there is something known as the time appointed. There is a set time, *Genesis 21:2*. The burden is grace redefined according to the provision of the Lord Jesus.

*Psalms 102:13 KJV*

*Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.*

This is the time the Lord is set to favour Zion and part of the favour is that He will pour upon His house the Spirit of grace and supplication, *Zechariah 12:10*. We are at the final time in the dispensation of grace and what is next is the dispensation of the Kingdom. In the time of old, men were able to tap into grace outside of their age. So also, in our day, there are people who will tap into the power of the age to come. Before the age wraps up, the church will partake of the fulness of God's Grace. People will be able to do things they could never do before and tap into realms they could never tap into. Hence, the need to look at grace and see what it enables us to do and how we can walk with it. *Acts 15:13-17* and *Amos 9:11-12* also speaks of the inspiration behind the burden, because God is releasing grace upon His church at this time. We will see what grace has done for us, what it is doing for us and how to engage grace in next weeks meditation.

*And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

*Zechariah 12:10 KJV*

*The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your Spirit.*