

THE SEASONS OF LIFE!

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11

INTRODUCTION: Our God uses the different seasons of life to make us into what He wants us to be. We have basically four seasons in Michigan but God has many different seasons in each of our lives:

Isaiah 64:8. Ecclesiastes 3:1:

I. THE SEASONS OF OUR LIVES ARE PROVIDENTIAL!

The seasons of each or our lives are providential: Daniel 2:21. It is difficult for each of us to wait for the seasons of life, especially when we are young; but that very waiting is a part of the seasons of life: Isaiah 40:28-31. As we wait for the seasons to change it seems to move slowly, but when those seasons change it seems to be so quick. Our God controls the seasons of our lives, not us. In the various seasons of our lives God has growth in mind for each of us.

II. THE SEASONS OF LIFE ARE PERPLEXING!

Ecclesiastes 3:11: Our God does everything perfectly for each of us to grow in Christ-likeness but we have a hard time trying to understand what our Lord is up to. One day we will understand but only when we see our Lord face to face: 1 Corinthians 13:12. So often in our seasons of life we think God's timing and God's plan for our lives makes no sense at all but our God does indeed know what He is up to.

III. THE SEASONS OF LIFE ARE PURPOSEFUL!

God always has a purpose for what He brings into our lives or allows to be brought into our lives: Romans 8:28-29. Our God says that each season of life, even if it seems to us to be bitter and painful it has a purpose and will work for our good if we chose to love Him and to obey what He tells us to do. If we submit to God and obey His commands He promises that all things together, He will work for our good so we can become more like our Lord.

IV. THE SEASONS OF LIFE ARE MANY!

The seasons of life are multiple: Ecclesiastes 3:1. Then Solomon mentions 28 different life experiences. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11. There are two kinds of folks in life: those who hoard stuff and those who pitch stuff. Solomon says there is a time for every activity under heaven! God knows that all sunshine makes a desert. Yes we also need times of rain in our lives. When we enter seasons that don't seem to be going anywhere we just need to keep trusting our Lord: Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 10:35-36. If we just stay faithful in our seasons of trial and our seasons of pleasure we will see that God works in every season of our lives for our good and for His glory. In our different seasons of life we need to ask ourselves: "How can this season of my life direct me?" Hebrews 12:11. We need to ask: "How can this season of life correct me?" Ecclesiastes 11:8; Psalm 118:24; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19; Philippians 4:12-13. "How can this season of life perfect me?" Ephesians 5:15-17; Galatians 6:9-10. "How can this season of my life provoke me to change?" Ecclesiastes 11:4-6.