

EVERYDAY LIFE

Thursday, November 13, 2008

"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest . . . shall not cease." Genesis 8:22 NKJV

"Nothing comes from nothing; nothing ever could."

My thoughts today suggest, **"maybe it's not time yet."**

Don't you just hate to wait for something that you want to happen? It seems in our nature to want what we want when we want it, and that is usually right now. *"But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord, I say, 'You are my God. My times are in Your hand.'"* Psalm 31:14-15 NAS. That is how God made things to work. He wisely knows that there is a **necessary process to life**. Things that come too quickly or too easily are not usually appreciated as fully. And often without the process, you could miss the essential preparation you always need to fully experience God's best.

Solomon wisely observed, *"To everything there is a season; a time for every purpose under heaven . . . God has made everything beautiful in its time."* Ecclesiastes 3:1 NKJV. Another translation says it this way, *"Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses . . . God has set the right time for everything."* Today's English Version. **Life will work best for you** when you believe and accept that. Such trust relaxes life, and grants you patience and peace of heart and mind. I don't know about you, but I am often waiting on something to happen, rather than simply waiting on the Lord. *"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart; and wait for the Lord."* Psalm 27:14 NIV.

But here is where the process really starts. **Life requires that you plant a seed**. Nothing comes from nothing; nothing ever could. If you don't plant a seed, no matter how long you wait; you still will not experience your harvest. Best to sow what you hope to reap (See Galatians 6:7-10), and in the measure that you hope to do so. See 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. NKJV.

Have you noticed that **people, who are giving and generous, always seem the happiest** with what they have? Conversely, observe how those who pour generously into the lives of others are constantly refilled themselves. While those who hold and hoard everything for themselves seem to worry about parting with what they have, and often end up losing it, or not enjoying it meanwhile.

"Some people give their money freely and still grow richer. Others are cautious, and yet grow poorer. Be generous, and you will be prosperous. Help others, and you will be helped. People curse a man who hoards grain, waiting for a higher price, but they praise the one who puts it up for sale." Proverbs 11:24-26 TEV.

Now, when you have planted seed and done so in abundance, having allowed the necessary time for the planted seed to germinate and release its inherent life, God promises there will predictably come the time of harvest just as He established from the beginning. **Every seed you plant schedules a harvest in God's time**. God built it into every seed. That is its God-given nature, unchangeably.

A last word of advice. God wants to bless you and give you more, but not just so you will have more for yourself. **Your bounty of harvest is a tool for you demonstrate your stewardship** to God, and express a generous ministry to others. See 1 Corinthians 10:24 NIV. You are meant to always be a conduit through which life flows, not a reservoir where it is stored and stagnant. Remember, harvest is not self-sustaining unless you **keep planting seed and allowing it time**. See Luke 6:38.

My prayer for you is to be content to wait for God's time, every time.

allen.randolph@trinitychurch.com

San Antonio, TX