

MESSAGE

Occasion : Lighthouse Quarterly Joint Coming Together
Theme : Beig joined together, each part effectively working to edify the Ekklesia in the love of Christ
Venue : Lighthouse BBC Tatalon / Online Live Streaming
Date : July 4, 2021

TITLE : TIME AND CHANCE
Text/s :

Ecclesiastes 9:10-12 (KJV)

10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

12 For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

Bible Reading :

2 Tim 4:1-8

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

KJV

Song/s :

Other references :

Instructions :

INTRODUCTION

Ecclesiastes 9:10-12 (KJV)

10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that **the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.**

12 For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.

The wise man teaches that

- the race is not exclusively won by the swift
- the battle is not exclusively won by the strong
- that bread is not always exclusively enjoyed by those who are wise
- that riches are not exclusive to men of understanding
- that favor is not enjoyed only by those who are skilled or who have abilities.

All these are afforded to all who are able to deal with times and chances that come with the lives of men, only if they will do with all might whatever opportunities or challenges come to their lives.

We need to learn that the way we deal with things that come our way, be they people, opportunities, challenges are the things that make us.

Some people act according to impulse. Some according to need. Some according to what people around them say or do. Some according to greed. Some according to caprice. Some, according to envy or jealousy. For whatever motivation people have...

BODY

In respect to time:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11-12 (KJV)

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

5 A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

7 A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

8 A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

11 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

12 I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life.

Eccl 3:17

17 I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.

KJV

Eccl 8:5-6

5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.

6 Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great upon him.

KJV

Eccl 7:14

14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him.

KJV

Acts 1:7

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

KJV

Chance is not luck...

Chance is an occasion that comes our way that makes us to respond according to what is in our hearts. These occasions may serve as opportunities, temptations, challenges, tests,

Galatians 5:13 (KJV) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Time and chance...

We submit that there are times of laughter or sadness, war or peace... but in all these times, there is a need for us to respond what what our hands may have the might to do with all strength...

Of what use is laughter, if after the laughs, we become drunk?

Of what use is the time of bereavement, if we do not rise above the pain?

Phil 4:11-13

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

KJV

1 Cor 10:31

31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

KJV

Col 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

KJV

Col 3:23-24

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

KJV

Phil 1:11

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

KJV

1 Thess 4:1

1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

KJV

CONCLUSION