

Genesis 9:18-29—The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the whole earth... After the flood Noah lived 350 years. Noah lived a total of 950 years, and then he died.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8—There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**—He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

# GOD WANTS TO GROW YOU IN EACH SEASON

Philippians 1:6—Being confident of this, that <u>he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion</u> until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:12-13—Therefore, my dear friends, as you have <u>always obeyed</u>—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—<u>continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling</u>, for it is <u>God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose</u>.

### 1. Seasons are predictable.

Ecclesiastes 3:1—There is a <u>time</u> for everything, and a <u>season</u> for every activity...

Matthew 20:28— ...to give his life as a ransom for many.

# 2. Seasons can be painful.

Ecclesiastes 3:2,4—...a time to die... a time to weep... a time to mourn...

James 1:2-4—Consider it <u>pure joy</u>, my brothers and sisters, <u>whenever you face trials of many kinds</u>, because you know that <u>the testing of your faith produces perseverance</u>. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

See also 2 Corinthians 11:16-33: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

#### 3. Seasons are purposeful.

Ecclesiastes 3:2,8—...a time to plant and a time to uproot... a time for war and a time for peace...

Romans 8:28—And <u>we know</u> that <u>in all things God works for the good</u> of those <u>who love him</u>, who have been called according to his purpose.

#### 4. Seasons are not permanent.

Ecclesiastes 3:1—There is a <u>time</u> for everything, and a <u>season</u> for every activity...

2 Corinthians 4:16-18—Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

# 5. Seasons must be prepared for.

Ecclesiastes 3:2-...a time to plant...

Genesis 41:34—Let Pharaoh <u>appoint commissioners</u> over the land to <u>take a fifth of the harvest</u> of Egypt during the seven years of abundance.

2 Timothy 4:2—...be prepared in season and out of season...

# 6. Seasons should be personalized.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2—There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die...

Joshua 1:2,5—<u>Moses my servant is dead</u>. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites... No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.