



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

January 22, 2023

“For Everything There is a Season”

A Time to Live and a Time to Die

This past week the musician Dave Crosby died. During the 1960’s and 1970’s he and the music groups he helped form were at the top of the music world. In those days, I listened to Crosby’s music often, and I will always remember one song he performed but did not write: “Turn, Turn, Turn.” The song’s lyrics came, of course, from the Biblical wisdom book Ecclesiastes; the verses form a wisdom poem.

The words from “Turn, Turn, Turn” have been heard by many people in every venue from rock concerts to funerals. The words express an eternal truth which has reverberated in people’s hearts for thousands of years, and that is because there is something special about this wisdom poem. I believe it is a direct connection to God via the Spirit that lives in all of us.

The Blessing of the Seasons

Seasons are the fabric of life, a blessing, even though we don’t always think that. When the weather is good, we don’t want it to change. But when the weather is disagreeable, we complain about it and wish for better! It’s pretty much the same in all aspects of life: when we are not happy and healthy, we wish and even pray for better! However, seasons bless us and the world we live in with renewal.

God has created a time, a place, and a purpose for everything, everything in balance. “A time to be born AND a time to die; a time to weep AND a time to laugh...” The word is AND not OR. We may not always understand this blessing, and we may even consider it a curse! Yet, the real blessing may be the gift of trust, trust in God and God’s purposes and plans.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
<p style="text-align: center;">FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERY MATTER UNDER HEAVEN: A TIME TO BE BORN AND A TIME TO DIE; A TIME TO PLANT AND A TIME TO PLUCK UP WHAT IS PLANTED; A TIME TO KILL AND A TIME TO HEAL; A TIME TO BREAK DOWN AND A TIME TO BUILD UP; A TIME TO WEEP AND A TIME TO LAUGH; A TIME TO MOURN AND A TIME TO DANCE; A TIME TO THROW AWAY STONES AND A TIME TO GATHER STONES TOGETHER; A TIME TO EMBRACE AND A TIME TO REFRAIN FROM EMBRACING; A TIME TO SEEK AND A TIME TO LOSE; A TIME TO KEEP AND A TIME TO THROW AWAY; A TIME TO TEAR AND A TIME TO SEW; A TIME TO KEEP SILENT AND A TIME TO SPEAK; A TIME TO LOVE AND A TIME TO HATE; A TIME FOR WAR AND A TIME FOR PEACE.</p>

All that this wisdom poem describes is necessary for us to learn, grow, and evolve as spiritual beings. Reflecting on the tumultuous life Dave Crosby led, I am still thankful for God’s artistic gift to him which has brought light and hope through music to many. AMEN!

Dear Lord, Your Word says that there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born, a time to die, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to keep and a time to throw away. This Word shows us that there is a time for change, it is natural for every activity to have its allotted time. Lord, help us to be comfortable in our times of change. Amen.