Understanding God and Timing

The following passage should become fuel for meditation, on the operating methods of our God, at least from a human’s limited perception. These words are attributed to William Shakespeare:

“God works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform.”

To the natural mind, and sense level reasoning, the ways of the great God of all creation, may seem a bit strange or even mysterious.

Paul explains that the operation of God, is to sometimes hide His truth and act, in a mystery. This keeps His enemies in the dark, while His plan awaits the appointed time, or due season.

Isaiah points out that the natural mind, or the human, sense level mode of thought, is out of touch with the ways of Jehovah, Lord of Hosts.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways, my ways, declares the Lord.

Man observes what “appears” to be going on and draws conclusions from what his senses report.

But, as Isaiah 46:10 teaches, God will finish out the final conclusion of a thing, in the realm of the Spirit, before He allows it to start in the natural realm. He finishes a work, before He sets it in play.

The Good News Translation renders Ecclesiastes 3:1 as:

“Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses.”

These words were from the wisest man of the Old Covenant era. The Bible in Basic English, renders this same passage as:

“For everything, there is a fixed time, and a time for every business under the sun.”

The subject of God’s timing is addressed by Solomon in the first eight verses of this third chapter of Ecclesiastes.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NAS)
There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven—

1. A time to give birth and a time to die;
   A time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted.
2. A time to kill and a time to heal;
   A time to tear down and a time to build up.
3. A time to weep and a time to laugh;
   A time to mourn and a time to dance.
4. A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones;
   A time to embrace and a time to shun embracing.
5. A time to search and a time to give up as lost;
   A time to keep and a time to throw away.
6. A time to tear apart and a time to sew together;
   A time to be silent and a time to speak.
7. A time to love and a time to hate;
   A time for war and a time for peace.

Creation is in a very special time sequence balance. Everything one person does, affects the times and destiny of others.

Seek God’s face, to know His will, so that we are always submitted to His will, His plan, His purpose, which all revolve around His times and seasons.

When a man walks in cadence with God, he will always arrive at the right destination, on time for his appointed harvest.

P.J.

Yesterday the world was looking for the world to come to an end, because a man wise enough to build a 70 million dollar empire, owning 100 “Christian” radio stations, and calling himself a “minister of the Gospel”, said he had figured out the date of God’s arrival and the end of time.

Deceived people put aside the fact that he had missed it in ’94 and subsequent years, and contributed 12 million dollars, to help him get the word out, that the end would occur May 21st.

Many entrepreneurs made a lot of money on this lunacy.
God’s Word had already informed man that, “…for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh” Also Mark 13:32 and Revelation 3:3.

Luke 12:40 “Be ye therefore ready also, for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.”

God keeps the surprise factor on His side. Only the Spirit of God knows the ways of God. The human/natural mind is incapable of recognizing the level of wisdom our Father operates on.

Understanding God’s timing, how could any person allow themselves to be robbed of God’s blessings and favor, by attempting to use prayer or faith to override God’s timing?

Is it not amazing, that man, the created, attempts to instruct, correct, advise or even challenge, the one who, as Creator, made him and all he contacts with his senses?

The Creator, God, and the created, Job, had a face to face on the subject of who is in charge, and who is not.

Job 38 (NAS)

1Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said,
  2"Who is this that darkens counsel
      By words without knowledge?
  3"Now gird up your loins like a man,
      And I will ask you, and you instruct Me!
  4"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
      Tell Me, if you have understanding,
  5Who set its measurements? Since you know.
      Or who stretched the line on it?
  6"On what were its bases sunk?
      Or who laid its cornerstone,
  7When the morning stars sang together
      And all the sons of God shouted for joy?
  8"Or who enclosed the sea with doors
      When, bursting forth, it went out from the womb;
  9When I made a cloud its garment
      And thick darkness its swaddling band,
 10And I placed boundaries on it
      And set a bolt and doors,
And I said, 'Thus far you shall come, but no farther; And here shall your proud waves stop'?

"Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, And caused the dawn to know its place, That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, And the wicked be shaken out of it?"

"It is changed like clay under the seal; And they stand forth like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, And the uplifted arm is broken."

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea Or walked in the recesses of the deep?"

"Have the gates of death been revealed to you, Or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?"

"Have you understood the expanse of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this."

"Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place, That you may take it to its territory And that you may discern the paths to its home?"

"You know, for you were born then, And the number of your days is great!"

"Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, Or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, Which I have reserved for the time of distress, For the day of war and battle?"

"Where is the way that the light is divided, Or the east wind scattered on the earth?"

"Who has cleft a channel for the flood, Or a way for the thunderbolt, To bring rain on a land without people, On a desert without a man in it, To satisfy the waste and desolate land And to make the seeds of grass to sprout?"

"Has the rain a father? Or who has begotten the drops of dew?"

"From whose womb has come the ice? And the frost of heaven, who has given it birth?"

"Water becomes hard like stone, And the surface of the deep is imprisoned."
Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades,
Or loose the cords of Orion?

Can you lead forth a constellation in its season,
And guide the Bear with her satellites?

Do you know the ordinances of the heavens,
Or fix their rule over the earth?

Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,
So that an abundance of water will cover you?

Can you send forth lightnings that they may go
And say to you, 'Here we are'?

Who has put wisdom in the innermost being
Or given understanding to the mind?

Who can count the clouds by wisdom,
Or tip the water jars of the heavens,

When the dust hardens into a mass
And the clods stick together?

Can you hunt the prey for the lion,
Or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,

When they crouch in their dens
And lie in wait in their lair?

Who prepares for the raven its nourishment
When its young cry to God
And wander about without food?

All through the scriptures, a pattern can be seen. A revealing of God’s operation and of His time sequence for all things.

Everything under Heaven, has an appointed time or season. The power comes from learning the ways, patterns and operational boundaries of God’s dealing with man.

I should not try to direct or determine the season or time, but rather, become so intimate with the Lord of time and seasons, that I am attuned with His flow, and submit to it.

Once a Believer begins to see this powerful element of timing, of seasons, of set times in the working of divine purpose, they can adapt their petitions to His purpose.
Learning that there are divine appointments for every promise of God allows the Believer to advance from “I want, I need, I wish, it hasn’t happened yet” on up to a proper and power producing stance before God that states “I have a divine appointment with my promise from God, and I shall not be denied what my Covenant provides.”

Great peace and patience come when one realizes that the promises of God are yes and amen, or so be it, never if or no.

“Every good and perfect (mature) gift, comes down from the Father of lights, in whom there are no grey areas nor is there any chance of change.”

Most of the occurrences or manifestations of God, recorded in His Word, were tied to a specific time for them to occur.

The Believer can take strength and resolve from knowing, that while every promise of God belongs to them already, their arrival date is tied to God’s eternal purpose, and the obedience of others.

By way of example:

We know that it was the Father’s plan for His Son to go to the cross, to save lost humanity, even before there was a human being to save.

**Revelation 13:8** describes our Messiah as the sacrificial Lamb of God, “slain from the foundation of the world.” Meaning, his sacrifice date was set, before time began.

**Romans 5:6** “for when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.”

Paul illustrates in 1 Corinthians 15:8 that his Apostleship was as one who was “born out of due time.”

In 1 Timothy 2:6 the writer states that Messiah gave himself as a sacrifice, knowing that at an appointed, future time, the testimony of His death and resurrection would be testified of by many.

Titus teaches there are appointed times (due times) for the preached word to be manifested. Appointed times for the power of God to show up.
1 Peter 5:6 teaches that those who humble themselves before God, meaning to submit to His will, plan and purpose, there is an appointment for their promotion, or a due time of being lifted up.

In Habakkuk the second chapter, God answers the prophet saying, “write down the vision of what is to occur, because there is a set time, a due season, when what he saw, would occur”. The Prophet saw into the realm of the Spirit, was witness to what would occur, but was told, it was for another time. There was a “due time” or season, when God would manifest it.

Acts 17 records a powerful emphasis on the “seasons”, or “due times” of God.

Acts 17:24-31 (KJV)

24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. 29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device. 30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

In verse 26 the reader learns that God set out times for men to arrive on earth and even the places they would inhabit.
In verse 31 it is made clear that a “due time” has been established in the future of man, when the Lord will judge mankind on their right standing in Messiah.

Galatians 4:2 states that there was an appointed time for Sonship to occur. The father determined maturity, not the son.

Mark 1:9 points out there was an appointed time for Messiah to be baptized. A time, a place and a vessel (John) were set in place for the advancement of the ministry of Messiah, long before Messiah was born.

Each child of God has an appointment with their own personal gift of God, harvest. A specific time when overflow takes place. A set time, a set place and a vessel or channel through which the abundant harvest of God overtakes the Believer.

This is one appointment you do not want to miss. One place you want to be sure to arrive at.

There are people God has set in your pathway to upwards progression, you want to be sure you are nice to and receptive to.

Galatians 6:9 (KJV)
“and let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”

Another rendering of this passage is:
“Let us not grow tired of doing what is right, for at the appointed time of harvest, we will reap abundantly, if we don’t get discouraged, faint, quit on the promise, or throw in our hand.”

Each Believer has a divinely appointed season in which harvest comes to them, if they remain in faith with the seed time and harvest time plan of God.

The God of all creation, who has set all creation in motion has a time table in place. There is a universal time sequence for events to occur, and an individual time frame, for the events of each person’s life to occur.

From John 13:1 we can observe the work of submission to the “due seasons or times” of the Father God.
“Jesus already knew, before the festival of Passover began, that the time had come for Him to pass from this world, to the realm of the Father.”

If we, the Believer, are to do the works that He did, we must learn to submit to the timing of God, and learn the seasons of God. We must adapt, in order to be on time for our divinely appointed times, of inner-action with God.