

The Fullness of Time

Psalm 103:17-18, John 1:14-18

Time. We can use the word referring to a single point or an event, it can refer to a season of time or even used as a verb: we were timed as we took the math test.

One thing that is sure is that none of us have much time. That's true on a busy day but even when considering a lifetime. Remember last week, the Psalmist reminded us that Jehovah has compassion on us because He knows our _____, remembering that we are _____. He compared a human being's days like grass or even a flower. Even the word the Psalmist uses for man refers to _____. A stark reminder we all have expiration dates. So, time really is a precious thing.

The Apostle Paul merged all the various concepts of time in Galatians 4:4. Messiah came in the _____ of _____. That date/season was known by Jehovah from eternity past to eternity future that Messiah would come at that moment in the fulness of time. A time when everything was in perfect alignment. Alexander the Great had spread common Greek to the known world, and the Romans had secured a peace throughout that known world. What about Jehovah's people?

Since the garden, Genesis 3:15, His plan for redemption had already been begun, the sacrificial system, foreshadowing the Great Sacrifice, was in place. Isaiah 7 and 9 spoke of His coming as well as the rest of the OT.

The Psalmist provides a beautiful picture to us. On the one hand, he reveals the frailty of a human being, whose time

on this planet is short. Then, he reveals the marvelous truth of God's _____ for us. It is _____ to _____. It goes from eternity past to eternity future. So, how do we know this mercy, this steadfast love is genuine? _____. An even more important question, how do I know He has bestowed His love on me?

The birth of Christ is _____ of His mercy. The birth of Christ is also evidence that Jehovah is _____ about _____. Jehovah did not leave redemption to a committee, nor to frail human beings.

How much did the God of eternity love you? How serious was He about sin? _____.

Just how serious are we about sin, the _____? Is your Christianity sort of like a Christmas sweater? That it is, it only comes out a certain times?

In the same way that Jesus stepped into our world, changing everything, He anticipates/expects that His kids will step into it and change it as well.

That neighbor, that co-worker, that family member desperately needs to see Jesus today. The plan of our Gracious King is that we be Jesus to them. That's His plan.

There is no plan b.

He came in the _____ of time. He has sovereignly placed you where He wants you, in the _____ of time.