

The Times of The Seasons

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Here in beautiful Western North Carolina, in my beloved “Upstate” of South Carolina, we experience four distinct seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. These seasons have been set from the beginning by **God** specifically for his people to assemble for worshipping *him*.

“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:”

-Genesis 1:14

Now, this word *seasons* would be better understood as *Appointed Times* or *Appointed Feasts* – concepts that we in God’s Church understand well. I want you to notice that these *Appointed Times* were instituted before mankind was ever created – being instituted on the **Third Day**. Whereas mankind was created on the **Sixth Day**.

The fact that these *Appointed Times* existed as an integral part of the *creation process* should make us aware that these yearly **Feasts**, along with the **Weekly Sabbath**, were part of God's original design and intention for all of mankind.

Without a doubt, we understand that one day all nations – all people will keep the **Feast of Tabernacles**, and indeed they will follow all of **God’s Perfect Way of Life**.

“And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. ...and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts.”

-Zechariah 14:16-21

But we who have been called into **God’s Church** – *the Assembly of the Eternal* – in this life, have a wonderful opportunity to keep these Appointed Times. We have been so graciously

blessed to have been given the ability through **God's Spirit** to see that these Feast Days teach us so much about **God's Plan of Salvation** for all human beings.

And as we eagerly await the onset of the **Fall Holy Days**, we should begin to study, meditate, and pray about their meanings for not only God's Church but for all of humanity:

- 1) **Feast of Trumpets** – This Great Day pictures the coming **Day of the Lord**. Also called the Trumpet Seal in your Bible. In the **Book of Revelation**, this Trumpet Seal contains Seven Sequential Trumpets, and when the Last Trumpet is sounded, the *dead in Christ* will rise, and those who remain alive in Christ will *all* be changed into spirit beings. Then we will meet our Messiah in the air at His arrival while the Seven Last Plagues are poured out on an unrepentant remnant of humanity. (*1 Corinthians 15:51-54, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17, Revelation 15:7, Revelation 16:1-18*)
- 2) **The Day of Atonement** – This is a Day in which we refrain from all food and water—a complete fast. This day pictures the removal of the *original source* of all *sin* and *deception* from the world. **Satan the Devil** is bound and cast into a bottomless pit for a thousand years. This clears the way for the world to heal and learn the perfect will of God – they will begin to learn the truth, free of deception, and see clearly without demonic vexations for the first time. (*Revelation 20:1-3, Leviticus 23:27-32*)
- 3) **The Feast of Tabernacles** – This Seven-Day long Feast pictures the **Millennial Kingdom** – the *Thousand-Year Reign* of Christ upon this very Earth – *God's Perfect Government*. Oh, what an awesome and beautiful time for all of mankind, worldwide, to get together and worship their King and to fellowship with each other! (*Leviticus 23:34-43, Deuteronomy 16:13-15, Deuteronomy 14:22-26, Revelation 20:4-6*)
- 4) **The Last Great Day** – or **The Eighth Day** comes at the end of The Feast of Tabernacles but is an *entirely* separate Holy Day. This *Appointed Time* is a Great Celebration because it pictures **The White Throne Judgment**, where everyone who was not part of the *First Resurrection* will have their “*first*” chance for salvation in the *Second Resurrection*. And as the number eight is a number of *new beginnings*, the Last Great Day also pictures the

New Heavens and the **New Earth** with the descent of the **New Jerusalem**. This Earth is ultimately destined to be the “*Eternal Home*” of the Father and Jesus Christ, who will live here with their family of “*born-again*” *immortals*. (*Revelation 21-22, Leviticus 23:36-43, John 7:37*)

This way of life that we have been called to as **God’s Church** requires us to step up to the plate – to put our faith into practice. We are required to be obedient. And it is through that *practice of faith and obedience* that we learn more about the mind of our creator, our sustainer, and our only wise King. It is through observing these seasons – these *Appointed Times and Feasts* that we deepen *our relationship* with our Lord and Savior **Jesus Christ**.

We may not have much longer to run this race – we may be closing in on the final laps. We may be seeing the *fulfillment* of the Fall Holy Days play out in the near future.

This **truth** is also a part of observing these days – the truth that we begin to discern the signs of the times. As Christ told the disciples in *Matthew 24:32*:

“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh.”

Make this year’s Appointed Times – these **Fall Holy Days** the most important, most meaningful, most joyous, and the “*best*” Fall Holy Days that you have ever observed. Allow them to draw you closer to your Savior, allow them to change *you* as a person, become more like our Father through Christ, and strive to run the **good race** of faith for the prize of immortality!

Hope to see Ya’ll There!