

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles written by Terry Carter unless otherwise stated ~

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Fall Colors



"To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:" **Eccl. 3:1 (NKJV)**

Just in case you have not noticed, fall is here. There is not more vivid proof of this than the fall colors. Every year, in this part of the country, we are treated to a beautiful display as the leaves change color before they fall to the ground. As usual, this year the colors have been absolutely breathtaking. If you have not noticed this, you just have not been paying attention.

Every year, when I see the fall colors, I am reminded of some important truths.

First, I am simply amazed and awed by the beauty of God's creation.

Each season of the year has its own type of beauty. The spring has its own kind of color with flowers blooming. The summer has the beauty of the green grass and trees along with the growing crops. Even the dead of winter can be beautiful with the pure white snow, and yes, even ice. But for me, there is no more beautiful time of year than fall when the leaves are in full color.

God has not just made His creation functional, but He has also made it beautiful.

"And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is **pleasant to the sight** and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." **Gen. 2:9. (NKJV)**

Clearly, this beauty is for the benefit of creatures who can appreciate it. Man is the only creature on earth that can do that. I have never seen any animal enjoying the beauty of nature in any season.

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except

that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end." **Eccl. 3:11 (NKJV)**

Second, I am reminded that God's promises are dependable.

Right after the flood, God promised that as long as the earth remains the seasons would change.

"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease." **Gen. 8:22 (NKJV)**

God made this promise over four thousand years ago. In that time, God has kept His word each and every year. Anytime you wonder whether God's promises can stand the test of time, just look at the changing of the seasons.

Third, I am reminded of the verse that I quoted at the beginning of this article.

There is a season for everything. There is only one thing that I personally dislike about the fall—it means that winter is coming soon. Because of this, there is a time to sow and a time to reap. As the old

saying goes, “we must make hay while the sun shines.” We need to take advantage of the opportunities that we have today because they may be gone tomorrow.

Fourth, I am reminded of God’s provision.

The summer provides the trees with what they need to survive even the harshest winter. The same is true of us. When I drive by and see the farmers out harvesting their crops, I realize that God has been providing for us all summer long.

“Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.” Acts 14:17 (NKJV)

All year long, God provides for us. In the sunshine and the rain, He is caring for His creation. Are we thankful for Him at all times or only in certain seasons? He is God all year long. Do we worship Him at all times?



To everything there is a
season, A time for every
purpose under heaven:
A time to be born, And a
time to die; A time to
plant, And a time to
pluck what is planted;
Ecclesiastes 3:1-2