



# To everything there is a *Season*

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This past week has presented that even during times of uncertainty, there are still some of God's wonders that happen at very specific times of the year. Each year when spring arrives, it's filled with hope, rebirth, and a bit of excitement as the birds come around a little more. Perennials that wake up reaching for the warm sun and the refreshing rain.

Various critters come out of hibernation, welcoming the new season. Even during this time, neighbors are slowly making their way out of their homes to sweet smell of the fresh air. Spring brings trees budding, fresh green grass and planning for yard work and landscaping, a time for plans and projects.

The first Sunday in June each year we celebrate the first service that was held for our church. Three years ago, this first Sunday of the month we had 54 people in attendance. Each year we have fellowship and cake to celebrate our church's birthday. I ask that you take time this week to have cake to celebrate our third year.

Spring is the season where we put away the reminders of the cold winter. For everything there is a season. Some of you may remember the song by the Byrds; *Turn, Turn Turn*. The song was originally recorded in 1959 and the Byrds turned it into an international hit in 1965. All we knew at the time; was it was a great song. I didn't learn until later the lyrics came from the book of Ecclesiastes Chapter 3: Verses 1-8.

To everything there is a season,  
and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
A time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, a time to reap that which 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 cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
A time to gain that which is to get, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;  
A time to rend, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
A time of love, and a time of hate;  
a time of war, and a time of peace.

God has given us the signs that there is a place and time for all things. When the Byrds released the song, they were pleading for world peace. I read the lyrics now and find how these words bring comfort for another place in time where I think people are trying to find a different kind of peace. I think the time of peace is now peace of mind.

It seems people who take the events of the day seriously have anxiety going on from time to time. It can be overwhelming. With the ability to receive news at any given time, we are more connected to the world than any other time in history. We have been so spoiled in getting what we need when we want it. That luxury has been challenged lately. People requiring basic needs and can't get them.

Max Lucado has experienced the anxiety created by society's 24/7 connections. He is a Senior Minister of Oak Hills Church (TX), and has been offering his congregation practical tips that align with his faith for dealing with anxiety. He summarizes his best advice in his writings of *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*. He writes, "No matter what you're going through—you can rest in the peace of God, which 'surpasses all understanding.'"

As Spiritualists we know the Infinite Intelligence is all knowing for all time. The Infinite is the one thing that we as humans should have confidence that all will be as it is supposed to. Before our world, before our galaxy, Infinite Intelligence was present. As a society, it seems our faith and trust has diminished to material possessions. Our currency has "In God We Trust." The subliminal message that has transpired is shown through the need for the majority of society to have the biggest and best.

To truly trust in God, it's important to remember to trust the ways God helps each of us make meaning on the situation we currently face. So many of our friends and family have left various churches and religions, and the trust that was held with their God was put to the wayside when discovering spirituality in finding another way to connect with their God.

I see our current situation of social distancing no different than what has happened to religion in the past years. For the past 50 years people have social distanced themselves from their God and the community of fellowship. How can people be faithful without faith? How can one trust in God when they have lost trust in themselves?

During these times, it's important to plan and not panic. To be confident to trust that the plan we made with the Infinite Intelligence before we became physical, will be in our highest and best. Even in challenging times. For many, our current situation has tested the limits of trust. Each time you pay with cash, look at the message on the bills and hear your God speaking, urging you to trust in the love of your God. How do you trust in God?

Some people we love may become ill. Many of us will remain healthy. I worked for a man who once said, "You worry too much. To remain of sound mind, only worry about the things you can control. If you have no control, why worry? Turn it over to God's hands and let God take care of it and take care of you. You need to let go of things that you can't control. It's not meant for you."

For everything there is a season. We are in another season in our lives. It's now time:

to heal;  
and a time to build up,  
a time to keep,  
A time of love,  
and a time of peace.

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May God bless you and keep you.  
May God help you find peace of mind through the trust and love of God.

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Gracious God, I come to you in times of uncertainty that I may be renewed in my faith, comforted in my fear, knowing that wherever this path takes me, the power of your spirit is always with me. Thank you for reminding me the biggest gift I've received is the blessings of the things most precious are the possessions that can't be in my life from money. It's through your spirit I trust all is well. Amen