



A Time Such as This – AM

“And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14b)

Prayer: Heavenly Father, remind me each morning of Your constant love, *for in you I trust*. My prayers go up to You; *make me know the way I should go* (Ps. 143:8). We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Serving our Lord in A Time Such as This:

We are living in a time of terrorism and terrorists. Ever since September 11, 2001, news sources have reported on our nations plans to combat terrorism. We are reminded of Mordecai’s words to Esther, *“And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”* (Esther 4:14b).

As we serve our Lord and His people, we should ask ourselves this question, “Who knows, perhaps it is for a time like this that our Lord is asking us to serve!”

This devotional message also reminds us of Proverbs 3:5. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding*. In order to serve our Lord and share His message in a sin-sick world as “such a time as this”, we need to trust in Him and ask Him to “show us the way we should go”.

When our son, Rick, was eight years old, his assignment for his Sunday School class was to memorize Proverbs 3:5 (KJV): *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding*. “But what does it mean?” he asked me. I replied with an answer that was less than profound, “Don’t be a smart aleck and think you know more than the Lord.” And now almost 50 years later, he still thinks that my answer was a meaningful one!

We are living in an age where flying in airplanes has become a way a life. When we board a plane, we trust the plane has sound equipment, the pilot is skilled and well trained, and the weather is such that the plane is able to take off and land safely. Sometimes however, we hear of plane crashes due to pilot error, wind shear, and other reasons. Yes, sometimes we trust in the wrong things! *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding*.

Sometimes we place our trust in people – leaders in government, at church or work, in family members, friends, co-workers, and we are often disappointed. Yes, sometimes we trust in the wrong things! *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.*

Several years ago while I was in Wyoming for a speaking engagement, I decided to use some of my free time enjoying a river raft trip on the Platte River. I trusted that the trip would be a safe one. In fact, I was told that they had never had an accident! But the following week when I got home I read that this same raft capsized on a trip down the river, and several people drowned. Sometimes we trust in the wrong things! *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.*

Perhaps there are other obstacles in our lives (loss of job, illness, family problems, etc...) that keep us from placing our complete trust in God. Martin Luther said it best in the Small Catechism: “We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.”

As we continue our journeys of faith, let’s trust in our great God, Who gave us His perfect love in the person of His Son, Jesus, so that His healing love can now be extended to others through us!

Scripture is from the ESV unless otherwise noted.

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