

Time of Visitation, Time of Grace, Time of Death

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (II Cor. 6:2)

Time of Visitation

There are times in the life of men even periods of time, during which God especially draws men to Him. This time is not the same for all. We have become accustomed to the thought, and say, that God seeks man during his youth. It certainly holds true, but not for all.

A young person is sensitive and susceptible to all things. He is questioning and in many ways seeking. Even fear is not a strange matter in the life of a youth. When one does not know himself, does not know his desires and what he is suited for. There is only a feeling, that life has some meaning, but he does not know what. Lack of knowledge drives him to seek. A youth has a tendency to be emotionally unstable, in good as well as evil, and doing of evil results in a worse feeling condition than before and a cross-current of questions. Why? What?

On the part of a young person, physical development causes its own problems. The emotions are sensitive. The conscience reproaches. At that age one goes to confirmation which awakens still more questions: What kind of a person am I? Why am I like this? The questions become personal. The position of the group or flock is no longer the most important director of a person's inner feelings. In solitude there is time to deliberate and think about difficult questions connected to one's personal life. One does not get away from them by deciding to not think about them. Thoughts cannot be made prisoners. During the "age of problems" confirmation is attended, which opens to many the correct meaning of life and stabilizes the cross-currents of questions. When God can open the conscience and give courage for personal repentance and strength to believe, certainty and fear vanish. It does not happen thus, however, on the part of all.

Many a youth feels those days, avoids events arranged by believers avoids believing school companions and neighbors. He seeks peace for his restlessness in his own manner, although it feels that some supernatural seeks bothers, attempts to come near. The youth flees that, which one may not escape, avoids that from which he nevertheless knows can be found the meaning of life and peace. Flight succeeds, but perhaps only for a time.

Time of Grace

Temporal life continues, although repentance has not taken place. Man ages. When of age he has a family if God has seen it good. The time of grace (= time of life) continues. God can give the time of visitation or calling anew even though the first one during youth was rejected. In the family circle or with close ones there could someday arise a situation, which stops one to think. Sickness, misfortune, death or any kind of happening can do it. Nobody needs to say even a word about believing or repentance; the unbeliever knows his own situation. The question arises: What if I had died in that misfortune? What would be my portion now? God awakens that question inside. He calls yet unto repentance: Now is yet the acceptable time! Repent. "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." (Is. 55:6) The day of visitation should not be rejected, but rather one should be obedient to the call of God.

Death

In the world there is nothing as sure as death. It once comes to be the portion of us all. No one is late for it. It comes in its time. The time on anyone's behalf is known by none but God alone. He has set the time of our birth and death already before we were born into this world. We have not been born by chance. We have

been born into this time for that reason that in our lifetime we prepare to depart to eternity regardless of when it happens. Death shall once be the portion of all those who are born. After death we shall be asked only one matter. According to that judgment will be read unto us on the last day. We will be asked: Was the Lord Jesus and His kingdom familiar to us in this time. Were we members of it? With the last judgment will be called: "Come ye blessed of my Father." If the kingdom of God and its fellowship has not been our possession in time, to us will once belong the words: Depart from me ye accursed?

Man chooses, in this time, his part on the other side. All have time of grace. We can freely choose! The time of death will once come for all. After that, it is impossible to correct matters anymore. The correction must happen before then.

Child of God, you have your sins forgiven here in time. We are fortunate inheritors of eternal heaven. You can now lift up your own heart to believe all sins forgiven in Jesus' name and blood unto peace of conscience, freedom of believing and joy of the heart. Be of good comfort. Matters are well.

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