

August 29-September 2, 2016

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A Christian Perspective on Fall – Despite the warm temperatures outside, we are just three weeks away from my favorite season of the year...fall!

The season of fall in West Virginia is one that is marked by cooler temperatures and brilliant displays of colorful leaves as God paints the landscape in postcard-fashion. This week, let's look at 5 biblical truths that give us a spiritual perspective on the upcoming fall season.



5 MINUTES / 5 DAYS

MONDAY

Creator God

Psalm 8:3-4

The changing of the leaves reveals to us God's infinite wisdom, power, beauty, splendor, and creativity. It is difficult to look at a beautiful fall landscape and not praise the One Who created it all. Colossians 3:16 reminds us that *"for by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him."* The Bible opens with *"In the beginning God created..."* God is Creator. He alone spoke the earth into existence. He not only created the trees, the leaves, the sun, moon, and stars, He created you and me for His purpose. I love what Nehemiah says in Nehemiah 9:6: *"You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and You preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships You."* After seeing all that He has made, we stand back and worship Him.

Worship God as Creator, giving Him praise for all that He has made.

TUESDAY

Seasons Change—God Never Changes

Malachi 6:1

Seasons change. Circumstances change. Health and finances change. The weather can change in a short amount of time. Clothing styles and trends change. Governments can change. There are so many aspects in our lives that can change, but as Christians, we can take comfort in knowing that God never changes! Malachi 6:1 says, *"For I am the Lord, I do not change."* In an ever-changing world, it is a comfort to know that we serve a God who never changes. He is always the same. His love never changes. His wisdom never changes. His power never changes. His mercy and grace never change. His holiness never changes. He is the same *"yesterday, today, and forever."* (Hebrews 13:8)

Entrust your ever-changing circumstances into the hands of a never-changing God.

Glorifying God by producing more maturing followers of Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

God Is Faithful

Lamentations 3:22-24

Fall reminds us of God's faithfulness. There has never been a year when summer didn't turn to fall. No matter how hot and parched the summer months can be, the signs of fall begin to show in late September and early October. Not just this year, but every year. Did you know that the Bible talks about fall? Joel 2:23 says, *"Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God, for He has given you the autumn rains because He is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before."* God's faithfulness is at the heart of who He is. He cannot cease to be faithful because it is His own character. Hymn writer Thomas Chisolm said it best when he wrote, *"Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!"*

Thank God for His faithfulness in your life.

THURSDAY

Seasons of Life Change

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Just as seasons change, the seasons of our lives also change. We each have seasons of happiness and seasons of sorrow. Seasons of laughter and seasons of grief. Seasons of waiting and seasons of pressing forward. Seasons of good health and seasons of bad health. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, *"there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."* Each season has its share of storms. Some of these life storms can be severe and violent storms. Trust God in the midst of the storm. *"What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee."* (Psalm 56:3). When the rain and wind is so strong that you cannot see, hold tight to God's promise that He will never leave you or forsake you. When your boat of life is tossed around on the violent seas, trust in the One who can walk out on the water and speak, *"Peace! Be still!"* (Mark 4:39) Whatever season you are in, rest in the fact that God is with you and He will see you through.

Ask God to help you trust Him more in whatever season of life you are in.

FRIDAY

Give Thanks

Colossians 3:15-17

Each fall we pause and think about the harvest and all that we have to be thankful for. The farmer always stops and looks at the plentiful harvest at the end of summer and gives thanks to God for His provision. We, too, need to stop and give thanks to God for all He has given us. We are so blessed. Psalm 9:1-2 says, *"I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing the praises of Your name, O Most High."* For the Christian, Thanksgiving should be everyday as we thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to pay the ultimate price so that we can have eternal life. Just as a father wants to hear from his children, so our Heavenly Father longs to hear from His own. Take time today to thank God for His many blessings in your life and tell those around you of His wonderful works.

Count your blessings!