

Harvest Time

by Rev. Julia Schwert

Fall is now here. With it comes harvesting time when the farmers bring in their produce that has been growing since the spring. To harvest time, let's look back and glean some tidbits from messages we have been hearing since spring.

Purpose Driven – Seems to have been our underlying theme for several months now. Let's take time to reflect upon what God is saying to us:

- Jeremiah 18:1-6 – A marred vessel, in the hands of the potter, can still be used because you are purpose. God doesn't throw purpose away; He makes it again! You are in the Master's Hand; allow Him to make you again.
- I John 3:8 – Jesus destroyed all the works of Satan; this was His purpose! Purpose is the reason why something exists. Genesis 1:26 and Genesis 2:7 – man became a holy living soul by the breath of God. God purposed a remedy before He gave man a choice so man would have an opportunity to live out his God purpose no matter what choices/mistakes he makes. Problems or mistakes we may make in life will not hinder our purpose when we develop our relationship with God, because it is through this relationship we understand our purpose.
- Philippians 3:13-14 – Forget those things in the past. . . go forward from where you are right now. Your past has the potential of being a positive ministry for the future. There is a mark before you that you must press to reach. Romans 4:17 – What has been written for you? There will be opposition to keep you from obtaining what God wrote. **But** Satan cannot mess up what God has written about you!
- Hebrews 12:1-3 – Jesus endured the contradiction of sinners. We must not be weary in our mind; we must realize it isn't

over yet! In the end, we win! Hebrews 11:2 -- The elders received a good report by faith! Through God's faith the worlds were formed. It came about by God's word and His faith. When 'God said' His faith was at work every time He spoke. Realize in Hebrews 11:6, if we don't please, we displease. Doesn't mean we are going to hell, but we are growing weary because of it. We must lay aside every weight (whatever is holding us down). **Every** means there could be many weights. **The** means one. The sin that displeases God is "*lack of faith.*" Lack of faith will cause us to grow weary. It will set us back. It will give spiritual depression. God wants us to have faith that will give us continual victory and peace in the midst of the battle.

- John 17:1-22 – Jesus was given power over all flesh (even His own flesh). We have power! We can speak life to any dead or decayed situation. Jesus glorified God where He was sent to work (on the earth). The "Glory of God" is the essence of God in all of His splendor. The light of His presence is upon you. The yoke breaking power, His love, and His life are all over you to dump on someone else. God in you is operating through you. Just as the Father sent Jesus, Jesus sent us into the world.
- Genesis 21:1 – The Lord kept His word and did exactly what He promised! Speak to your circumstances. What you have on the inside far outweighs what's on the outside. Faith has eyes! **See** what the Bible says is true. Trouble **is** opportunity! What's on the inside was designed to win over the outside. We have been told the ending from the beginning! We have been told the future before it began! To the believer, all His promises are certified. We just need to mix God's promises with faith.
- Matthew 14:16 – Cousin John (John the Baptist) died; there was no mourning time. Jesus saw the multitude following Him and had compassion on the 5,000

men plus women and children. He saw the effects of the devil on the multitude; the effects of the devil killed John. Jesus took from the devil people that were plagued by the devil. The devil took one; Jesus took back many! No matter the situation there is still opportunity. What you have in you is **more than enough**.

- Psalm 91:1-5 – **Must** get into the secret place. It is hard to trust/believe someone you never spend time with. When we are being threatened, we have a place in God where we can go. Must **stay** in the secret place. God will protect you if you stay in the secret place. Psalm 27:1-2 – When we forget who is our shield and our protector, we don't trust God to take care of us. We **must** dwell in You, God! You protect and give insight.
- Luke 19:1-10 – We are the Body of Christ. The Son of Man came to seek, pursue, search out, and save the lost. We have the same purpose as the head! We have many methods, ways of doing things, which will have the end result of seeking, and saving the lost. Jesus could not pass by Zacchaeus; He had an assignment from God.