



# Daily Reflections

**September 23, 2016**

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## Scripture

### **Ecclesiastes 3:1-11**

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every thing under the heavens.  
A time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to tear down, and a time to build.  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.  
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;  
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.  
A time to seek, 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 be silent, and a time to speak.  
A time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time of war, and a time of peace.

What advantage has the worker from his toil?  
I have considered the task that God has appointed  
for the sons of men to be busied about.  
He has made everything appropriate to its time,  
and has put the timeless into their hearts,  
without man's ever discovering,  
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Perhaps some of you remember the song by The Byrds, "Turn, Turn, Turn." Today's text provided some of the lyrics for that song. Although the author points to the monotonous nature of time, he also alludes to something that moves him in the direction of faith: "God has put the timeless into their (human) hearts." When Jesus came to this world, He gave meaning and a purpose to all things.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Things happen for a reason. Sandra Harris always believed that, but even more so after a gardening accident helped save her life.

The 68-year-old Modesto retiree was trimming trees when her hands slipped, causing a pair of heavy pruning shears to fall on her chest. After the swelling went down a few days later, she noticed an abnormality on her breast.

It turned out to be stage 2 breast cancer. The tumor was nearly 4 centimeters. ...

Her "accident" probably saved her life. Harris and her doctors decided in March of 2014 that she should take oral chemotherapy for several months to shrink the tumor before surgery. When she had surgery in January, she said her tumor was about 2.7 centimeters. ...

During the ordeal, she found comfort in her family and faith, embracing the love and prayers that were sent her way in her time of need. She also met a new member of her church congregation that she didn't know before - the receptionist at the doctor's office.

--Adapted from "Accident turns out to be a blessing in disguise,"  
modesto.21co.com.

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, How wonderful life became when You came into this world. Strengthen my faith and hope so that I may never miss an opportunity to glorify Your name. Amen.

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