“TIME AND PURPOSE”

In the book of Ecclesiastes, chapter three Solomon sets out the times and seasons for various things. “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven:” (Eccl 3:1) We’ll take them one at a time.

“A time to be born.” (verse 2) of course we do not know when that time is, although there are a lot of people trying to figure it out these days. Advances in medicine has enabled us to figure out some things, like approximate time and the gender of the child before birth.

However instead of trying to figure out when and what the gender is before birth, our time would be better spent in thinking of “what shall this child be.” I know of people who have said they had no choice as to what their work would be, because it had been determined, by their parents, before they were born. While this can be true, it is largely not so in most cases.

Birth has always been an occasion of celebration and while in previous ages the first born was a particular celebration, today we celebrate any birth. Most of us can remember the distinct time and circumstances our children were born.

The Bible says, “Lo, children are a heritage of Jehovah” (Psa. 127:3) That means a blessing. They are also a great responsibility and I might say “a work in progress.” Sometimes experts try to tell us how to raise children, but theirs is a guess, for each one is different. Most folks I know are proud of their children, and the Bible the best trainer.

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August 11, 2015