

## Right Place, Right Time (Part 4)

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Broadcast Dates: 1/12/21 – 1/13/21

Message Date: 10/7/20 • 10:00 A.M.

### Scripture References

Ecclesiastes 9:11	Deuteronomy 28:12
Proverbs 16:9, <i>NIV</i>	Ephesians 4:23, <i>ERV</i>
Proverbs 16:9, <i>MSG</i>	John 21:1-3, <i>ERV</i>
Proverbs 16:9, <i>ERV</i>	2 Samuel 11:1-5, <i>ERV</i>
Matthew 19:26, <i>NLT</i>	John 16:13, <i>ERV</i>
Matthew 19:26, <i>MSG</i>	Proverbs 3:6
Matthew 19:26, <i>ERV</i>	Romans 12:2, <i>AMPC</i>
Deuteronomy 28:2, <i>NIV</i>	

### Summary

*God is the master at arranging situations that are favorable to His children. When we trust Him, He creates opportunities specifically for us so that we can receive His grace and experience His favor. God is always willing to intervene on our behalf. When we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide our steps, we will find ourselves in just the right place to encounter God. He makes everything possible, and limitations do not exist in Him; therefore, when the world tries to limit us and tell us something is impossible, we must remember that **God** always has the last word in the matter. It is an easy thing for Him to move obstacles out of our way so that He can bless us. Being sensitive to His promptings moves us into the right place at just the right time, so that we succeed.*

#### **A. No matter what we try to do with our lives, God is the determining factor in our success.**

1. I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all (Ecclesiastes 9:11).
  - a. In this context, “happeneth” can be translated into “Qarah,” which is Hebrew for being in the right place at the right time. It pertains to things orchestrated by God.
  - b. God sets up appointments for those He loves. “Happeneth” means to encounter or to be present for those appointments.
  - c. When these types of opportunities come our way, we must be ready to seize them. Our faith takes what God’s grace makes available.
2. We may try to chart our own course with our careers, our families, and everything else that concerns us. However, regardless of how much we plan, it is *God* who establishes our steps.
  - a. In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps (Proverbs 16:9, *NIV*).
  - b. We plan the way we want to live, but only GOD makes us able to live it (Proverbs 16:9, *MSG*).
  - c. People can plan what they want to do, but it is the LORD who guides their steps (Proverbs 16:9, *ERV*).

3. The world places plenty of limitations on us in every area of our lives. However, God removes *all* of those limitations. As His children, we must open ourselves up to all of His possibilities.
  - a. Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible” (Matthew 19:26, *NLT*).
  - b. Jesus looked hard at them and said, “No chance at all if you think you can pull it off yourself. Every chance in the world if you trust God to do it” (Matthew 19:26, *MSG*).
  - c. Jesus looked at them and said, “This is something that people cannot do. But God can do anything” (Matthew 19:26, *ERV*).

**B. God is well able to set up situations that work in our favor. We must trust Him on this.**

1. When we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, the blessings of Abraham come on us, regardless of what the world tells us.
  - a. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God (Deuteronomy 28:2, *NIV*).
  - b. The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand... (Deuteronomy 28:12).
2. You must be made new in your hearts and in your thinking (Ephesians 4:23, *ERV*).
  - a. We must always be ready for God-happenings in our lives that cause us to meet just the right person. It happened when Ruth met Boaz, and it can happen with us.
  - b. To experience God’s possibilities, we must let Him re-program us on the inside. This involves removing negative attitudes and replacing them with a different way of thinking.
3. Later, Jesus appeared again to his followers by Lake Galilee. This is how it happened: Some of the followers were together—Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the two sons of Zebedee, and two other followers. Simon Peter said, “I am going out to fish.” The other followers said, “We will go with you.” So all of them went out and got into the boat. They fished that night but caught nothing (John 21:1-3, *ERV*).
  - a. The disciples were at the right place, but were fishing at the wrong time. There may be times in *our* lives when we are at the right place, but not getting the right results because it is not the right time; timing is important.
  - b. We need God’s direction not only on what to do, but also when and where to do it. This will give us success.
  - c. The disciples initially did not catch anything, because they were not fishing according to God’s will. They were fishing according to *their* will, when *they* wanted to fish. We cannot move forward operating outside of God’s will.

**C. Trusting in God increases the chances of being in the right place at the right time.**

1. In the spring, when kings go out to war, David sent Joab, his officers, and all the Israelites out to destroy the Ammonites. Joab’s army surrounded their capital city, Rabbah. David stayed in Jerusalem. One evening he got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of his house. From there he saw a woman bathing. She was very beautiful, so David sent for his officers and asked them who she was. An officer answered, “That is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam. She is the wife of Uriah the Hittite.” David sent messengers to go and bring Bathsheba to him. She had just purified herself after her monthly time of bleeding.

- She went to David, he had sexual relations with her, and then she went back to her house. Later, Bathsheba became pregnant. She sent word to him saying, "I am pregnant" (2 Samuel 11:1-5, *ERV*).
- a. This is an example of someone who was in the wrong place at the wrong time. David decided to stay back while his men went to war; the result was disastrous.
  - b. When we are operating outside of God's assignment, we will experience the wrong results.
2. But when the Spirit of truth comes, he will lead you into all truth. He will not speak his own words. He will speak only what he hears and will tell you what will happen in the future (John 16:13, *ERV*).
- a. We must make up our minds to let the Spirit of God lead us. *He* is the one who fills us with wisdom and gives us success in our endeavors.
  - b. Allowing God to direct us delivers us from awkward situations in which He is not involved.
  - c. God wants us to acknowledge Him in all our ways so that He can direct our paths (Proverbs 3:6).
3. Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, *even* the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you] (Romans 12:2, *AMPC*).
- a. Understanding the God-moments when they happen allows Him to move us into His perfect will for our lives. These times are His best and highest for us.
  - b. Renewing our minds positions us to live like God wants us to live, and experience what He wants us to experience.

Category: faith

Keywords: situations, favorable, trust, opportunities, possible, bless, succeed