

The Right Time

Romans 5:6

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Paul says “while we were still weak” he means that God did wait for us to get our act together before He sent Jesus. The Greek term for “still weak” describes someone afflicted with illness, one who is completely powerless. (TLSB) It designates the moral unworthiness and the impotence of mankind. Our problem was and is sin, and we were/are utterly incapable of coping with it.

Romans 7:18 shows how hopeless we are when it says: “I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.”

Someone once said: “Timing is Everything.” That could certainly be said of today’s Bible passage. We can enumerate some of the on-goings in the then world which helped to open the way for the gospel such as the:

- ✓ vast extent of the Roman Empire,
- ✓ the spread of the Greek language,
- ✓ the facility of travel throughout the empire,
- ✓ the extensive diaspora of the Jews,
- ✓ its many proselytes from Gentile gods.

All of these aided the spread of the gospel. What God saw and regarded as the fullness of the time in the spiritual condition of men, barbarian as well as Greek, is too difficult for us to predicate because His thoughts and judgments are too unsearchable for us.

The doxology from Romans 11:33-36 says it well: “³³ Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! ³⁴ “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵ “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?” ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.”

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for sending Jesus at very right time. Amen