

# Perfect Timing

## Christmas Day Sermon 2022

### Rev. Thomas Parrish

Seemingly imperfect timing is perfect for accomplishing God's purposes.

***Galatians 4:4*** *But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

Timing is always a problem.

I wonder how Jesus' mother Mary felt when the angel Gabriel approached her when she was about 14 or 15 years old and told her that the Holy Spirit would come upon her. Mary would be impregnated supernaturally and be the mother of the Savior of the world.

The timing of Mary's pregnancy, if we focus the camera just on her, seems really bad. However From God the Father's perspective, **THE TIMING WAS PERFECT.**

*When the fullness of time had come.*

What does this expression truly mean? Another way to say this is:  
 when the time was ripe,  
 when the time was perfect,  
 when everything met at the same intersection,  
 God the Father sent forth His Son to be the Savior of the world.

Throughout biblical history, the Father had been whispering, promising, and suggesting that he would send a Savior.

In the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned and fell away from God, God promised that he would send a Savior for them and for all humanity.

God would approach a Middle Eastern nomad named Abraham and his wife Sarah, and God said, ***"You will miraculously conceive and through your seed will be a seed that will bless the nations of the world,"***

King David, telling him that the king would have an offspring in the future who would sit on the throne forever and ever. His reign will know no end.

We know God the Father was referring to Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

So we can accurately say: Jesus' coming was at the right time for all the right reasons.

In hindsight, we can see what an opportune time it was when Jesus was born as the Savior.

It was an ideal time **POLITICALLY** for Jesus to be born.

It was the ideal time of **RELATIVE PEACE.**



It was the ideal right time **CULTURALLY**.

Alexander the Great had conquered the world into which Jesus had come,

Greek language was very precise and the New Testament, the Gospels, were eventually written in Greek. Greek became the business language between cultures. The gospel spread, and the good news of Jesus spread much more quickly in Greek than it would have otherwise.

So it was the right time politically and culturally and it was also the right time **SPIRITUALLY**.

The great Greek philosophers like Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle had done a wonderful job raising questions about the meaning of life.

Someone said that the Greek philosophers plowed the fields of the human heart, and Jesus and his followers then sowed the seeds of meaning.

This is way God the Father can use difficult circumstances to accomplish great good in his timing

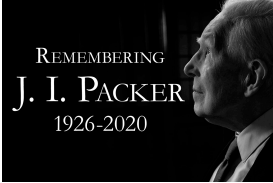
Through his angel Gabriel, he came to Mary and said to her, *"You will experience the Holy Spirit coming upon you and you will miraculously conceive and give birth to the Savior of the World."*

This Perfect Timing applies not just to the people in the Bible but also applies to YOU AND ME.

**How? Jesus uses our choices for his perfect purpose**

**Proverbs 16:9** that *in our heart we plan our course but the Lord ultimately determines our steps.*

J.I. Packer, respected theologian, points out, that *we are free in our choices and yet Jesus sovereignly uses our free choices to achieve his perfect purposes.*



God is sovereign. God is shaping history. Both are true. It's a mystery.

**TRUST IN JESUS, WHO WE CANNOT CONTROL, IS THE BASIS OF BIBLICAL FAITH.**

So how do you trust your choices, mistakes and confusion as the tools Jesus? **Three Steps:**

- 1. Turn your life, purpose and future over to Jesus each day.**  
*"Jesus, you are my Lord and Savior. I put total trust in you. Take my good decisions and even my bad decisions and work them together for your purpose in my life."*
- 2. Choose to be Jesus' presence, purposes, voice and actions to others.**
- 3. Live with the confidence that no matter what life throw at you: sickness, loss, disappointment, success and even money, it all belongs to Jesus and you will trust him no matter what happens.**

***JESUS CHOOSES TO USE OUR ORDINARY CHOICES TO ACCOMPLISH HIS ETERNAL PURPOSES, AND HE DOES IT IN HIS PERFECT TIME.***