“In Between”

A blog about being at Baylor

Real Time
By Burt Burleson

Downtime. Long time. Short time.
Crunch time. Quick time. Real time.
Daytime. Any time. Every time.
Pastime. Peacetime. Part-time

Mean time.
Old time.
Once upon a time.
Managing time.

Can you... manage time? You can, in a way. You can waste it, spend it, relish it, structure it, count it, endure it, schedule it, and in some ways... manage it. It’s common sense really. A college student without a calendar won’t be a college student come next semester. MANAGE YOUR TIME... as best you can.

But as you do, know this too... time, in the end, won’t be managed. The sun comes up and goes down... Mondays roll around. The seasons come and go... finals will happen. Time is on the march... the clock is ticking.

There is rhythm.
There is pattern.
There is a season for everything under heaven.

You can feel it, one thing giving way to another. Life moves. “It all turns,” as a friend wrote in a song.

It all turns doesn’t it
the world goes 'round a day
the tide hangs like a trailer on the moon
it all turns doesn’t it
the grass beneath the snow
one day will be growing
green and new.

- Milton Brasher-Cunningham

The Bible has a perspective on time. That it’s a gift. That it must be respected... reverenced. That we need to set our own “clocks” by it... this inherent time, this “big
clock” in God’s world. “In the beginning” there is day and night... work and rest. Ordinary and extraordinary.

So, while any college student with any sense (and a calendar) ought to be managing time... any college student with any deep sense (and a soul) ought to be reverencing time. There is a time to study... to work... to rest. A time to play and pray. To laugh... to cry... and laugh some more. A time to search... to be still. To hold... to fold.

Time, “real time,” is going to manage us in the end. And our beautiful calling, is to more and more, daily and ultimately, step in time with the One who is its author.

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