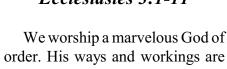


An Ordered Life

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11





always impeccably timed and placed. We often admire God's order in nature: day follows night; the seasons arrive systematically; the sun, moon, stars, and planets have predictable orbits; plants grow and develop in expected ways. Truly, "His way is perfect" (*Psalm 18:30*).

God is always on time, "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son" (*Galatians 4:4*). We reflect God's order when we are on time—not rushed and stressed. How often do we wish for more hours in a day, that we might complete our "necessary" tasks!

We never read that the Lord Jesus rushed, ran, dashed, or hurried during His earthly ministry. He was exactly in tune with His Father, calmly and thoroughly completing the work that God had for Him each day.

Satan, on the other hand, thrives on disorder, chaos, upheaval, and division, which is evident in our society's disintegrating values, relationships, music, art, etc.

Our lives, homes, churches, and local assemblies should reflect God's order, an order which brings peace, stability, and beauty to our lives. We are reminded that "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints" and that He tells us to "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:33,40). I can ask God to "Order my steps in Thy Word" (Psalm 119:133), knowing that "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD" (Psalm 37:23). Our lives reflect our minds, which should be calm and peaceful, not racing and troubled (John 14:1,27).

"Drop Thy still dews of quietness, Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess The beauty of Thy peace."

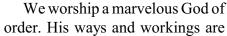
~John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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