

## “The Summer Is Ended”

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by Wayne Goff

*“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!”* (Jer. 8:20).

Jeremiah bemoaned missed opportunities by God’s people. Israel was obsessed with idolatry, had lost her love for the true God, and could not be healed.

Today, many Christians are on the verge of spiritual death because of their many modern idols. Look into your heart, dear reader, and ask yourself what is *your* idol? The simple answer is anything that is more important to you than God. For some people it is *self*, for others it is *family*, for others it is *work* or *play*, and for others it is *rest*. But we must put God on the **throne** of our hearts in order to be what God made us to be.

Perhaps another way to know what is most important in your heart is to ask yourself what you think about in your free time. For too many people, God is only a thought in their minds if they are in trouble. He is their “good luck charm.” Jesus taught us that we must love the Lord our God with all our hearts. It takes time, thought, meditation, and study to **love God**. Again, I urge you to “take time to be holy.” It’s worth the effort.

Today is the first day of Fall, 2013. The Summer is ended. God has promised *“while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease”* (Gen. 8:22). So all is well in nature when Fall arrives in its season. **However, do not miss the point!** Hope and pray that your **“summer of opportunity”** has not passed you by! God has forewarned us repeatedly that this **can** and **does** happen to His people:

- *“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God”* (Heb. 3:12).
- *“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame”* (Heb. 6:4-6).
- *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men”* (Matt. 5:13).

Sin and its deceitfulness is always the root cause of lost love for God. Do not be deceived. God is not mocked. You reap as you have sown. Sow to yourselves spiritual seed and reap life everlasting! Galatians 6:8

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