

## Chapter 52

# For Everything There Is A Season

### BIBLE

For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.<sup>1</sup> So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen.<sup>2</sup>

They are amazed. They answer no more. They don't have a word to say.<sup>3</sup> The mirth of tambourines ceases. The sound of those who rejoice ends. The joy of the harp ceases.<sup>4</sup>

They will not drink wine with a song. Strong drink will be bitter to those who drink it.<sup>5</sup> For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon."<sup>6</sup>

### COMMENTARY

- <sup>1</sup> **Ecclesiastes 3:1** The *Abbey Road* recording sessions would be the last time the four Beatles would work together as a unit. There were many factors that led to their breakup, and entire books have literally been written on the subject, but basically things had simply run their course.
- <sup>2</sup> **Matthew 20:16** *Abbey Road* was the last album the Beatles recorded, but not the last album they released. *Let It Be* was recorded first, but released after *Abbey Road*. So the last was first, and the first was last.
- <sup>3</sup> **Job 32:15** [**"They" are the Beatles**] Paul is amazed in "Maybe I'm Amazed," written by him in 1969 just before the Beatles broke up. The song, which appears on his first album *McCartney*, is a tribute to his wife Linda, and to the unconditional love and support that she was able to give him while he was going through a difficult time. Paul may have been inspired by the classic hymn "Amazing Grace," a tribute to the unconditional love and support that God gives to us.
- <sup>4</sup> **Isaiah 24:8**
- <sup>5</sup> **Isaiah 24:9**
- <sup>6</sup> **Matthew 11:18** John's demon was heroin, which he and Yoko were using during this time.

Another said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I can't come."<sup>7</sup> Thus Paul went out from among them.<sup>8</sup>

He said, "Oh, Lord, please send someone else."<sup>9</sup> I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith.<sup>10</sup> I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.<sup>11</sup>

"Our pursuers are on our necks: We are weary, and have no rest."<sup>12</sup> An end has come, *the end* has come; it awakes against you; behold, it comes."<sup>13</sup>

It happened, when the angel of Yahweh spoke these words to all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voice, and wept.<sup>14</sup>

The vine has dried up, and the fig tree withered; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the *apple* tree, even all of the trees of the field are withered; for joy has withered away from the sons of men.<sup>15</sup>

So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.<sup>16</sup> They took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their food, and went their way.<sup>17</sup> When they went, they went in their four directions: they didn't turn when they went.<sup>18</sup> Everyone went to his own house.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>7</sup> **Luke 14:20**

<sup>8</sup> **Acts 17:33** The recently married Paul was the first to announce that he was leaving the group, citing "personal differences, business differences, musical differences, but most of all because I have a better time with my family."

<sup>9</sup> **Exodus 6:13** Several of Paul's songs off *Abbey Road* allude to a sense of loss and to the problems the Beatles were having. In "You Never Give Me Your Money" he shares: "I break down...nowhere to go...wipe that tear away... soon we'll be away from here."

<sup>10</sup> **2 Timothy 4:7** Paul, who was struggling to keep the band together at the time, laments for better days in "Golden Slumbers": "Once there was a way to get back home."

<sup>11</sup> **Numbers 11:14** In "Carry That Weight" Paul describes the burden of trying to carry the weight for the band as others were losing interest: "In the middle of the celebrations I break down."

<sup>12</sup> **Lamentations 5:5**

<sup>13</sup> **Ezekiel 7:6** "The End" does indeed come on *Abbey Road*. It's the last "official" song on the album.

<sup>14</sup> **Judges 2:4** [*"The angel" is Paul*]

<sup>15</sup> **Joel 1:12** *Apple* is the name of the Beatles business organization.

<sup>16</sup> **2 Chronicles 15:10**

<sup>17</sup> **Genesis 14:11**

<sup>18</sup> **Ezekiel 1:17**

<sup>19</sup> **John 7:53**