

What Time is it?

An ISSACHAR anointing...

Let's begin by reading from the book of Ecclesiastes, chapter 3, verses 1-8.

A Time to...

There are 2 basic types of TIME in the scriptures (Chronos & Kairos)

Chronos: this is time, as we know it, the ticking clock that cannot be moved backward, ever-moving forward.

- *H#5703: a continual time into eternity, a forward process, perpetual.*
- *G#5550: a space or succession of time.*

Kairos: this is a specific moment of God's divine intervention in our everyday lives. He enters into chronos time with a door of opportunity.

- *G#2540: due season, short while, opportunities, right time, chosen time.*

We must be in an intimate relationship with the LORD in these turbulent times or as David Wilkerson wrote, in his article "Times of Calamity." We must continue our relationship with the LORD by soaking ourselves daily in His presence, eating His Word and praying continually. If we do not maintain our relationship with the LORD the distractions of this life can cause us to sleep and miss that Kairos time! We cannot risk missing those God opportunities of provision, protection, blessing and destiny that will come our way.

We need to walk in an ISSACHAR anointing.

In I Chronicles 12:32 we read about the SONS OF ISSACHAR. *They understood the times and knew what Israel should do...all their brethren were at their command.* They were commanders in King David's army and understood battle conditions. They were mighty men of valor. I Chronicles 7:5

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THE SONS OF ISSACHAR had a unique distinction apart from the other tribes (clans) of Israel because they understood the times which, gave them great wisdom and knowledge.

BIRTH:

Issachar was born the 9th son of Jacob, 9 speaking of fruitfulness. He was the 5th son of Leah, 5 speaking of grace. Scripture reference to his birth is found in Genesis 30:17-18

His name means: wages, may God show mercy and there is reward. His mother Leah had to pay a price or wage to have Jacob come to her bed the night that Issachar was conceived. The price was giving her mandrakes to Rachael.

What was so special about mandrakes? Mandrakes are a special plant with avocado type fruit on them, that when eaten produced fertility. Why did Rachael desperately want them? She was barren and thought she would become fertile and birth Jacob a son, which would take away her shame. Later we see that God pitied her and supernaturally opened her womb.

In Genesis it speaks about the lives of Jacob, Leah, Rachael and their sons. Leah and Rachael were at constant odds with each other you might say they were in a wrestling match. What was their constant battle? They both were after the affections of the same man, Jacob. They had a duel of who could birth Jacob sons and even gave their personal maids to Jacob to make him sons.

Rachael's maid Bilhah bore Jacob a son and Rachael said in Genesis 30:8 *"With great wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and indeed I have prevailed." So she called his name Naphtali.*

It's funny that Jacob wrestled too, if you remember he wrestled with and Angel all night. Genesis 32:24 *Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man (Angel) wrestled with him until the breaking of day.* It was a theme in that family.

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After studying out ISSACHAR I realized he was birthed in the midst of struggle. He was named ISSACHAR because of the wage Leah had to pay Rachael. The wage or price was high and it would mean that if Rachel became pregnant she would lose any hope of winning Jacob's affection for her. Rachel was barren at that moment and so Leah had the advantage but she also knew it would all change once she paid the price of the mandrakes. It kind of sounds like an afternoon soap opera!

As we can see, if we read about the sons of these 2 women they named their children after their circumstances or a particular situation. An example is Rachel's 2nd son; she named him Ben-Oni, which means "son of my suffering". The reason was is that she was dying in childbirth and was suffering greatly. Jacob later renamed him Benjamin, which means "son of my right hand". So we can see that naming children had various reasons, some were because of circumstances and others were named for their destiny. As in the case of THE SONS OF ISSACHAR which had destiny in their names.

GENEOLOGY: is listed in I Chronicles 7:1-5

SONS OF ISSACHAR:

There were 4 SONS OF ISSACHAR.

- Tola = clothed in scarlet. (red being the color of salvation)
- Puvah = mouth, utterance. (a prophetic voice)
- Job = the persecuted, cry of woe (entire book devoted to Job's life)
- Shimron = watchman

PROPHETIC WORD:

Jacob's prophetic utterance to his son ISSACHAR gives us great insight into ISSACHAR'S calling and anointing. Genesis 49: 14-15
"Issachar is a strong donkey, Lying down between two burdens; He saw that rest was good, And that the land was pleasant; He bowed his shoulder to bear a burden, And became a band of slaves."

What Time is it?

An ISSACHAR anointing...

- Strong in character
- Shouldered burdens
 - Shoulders represent realms of authority & responsibility.
- Walked in difficult places
- Rested in the LORD-no striving (the secret place)
- Had a vision for the land (harvest field)
- Humble servant

Looking AT Jacob's prophecy, the Issachar anointing is something we need to operate in for our troubled times. SONS OF ISSACHAR were mighty warriors, fruitful, under grace, wise, full of knowledge and had an acute gifting to perceive or discern the times.

In Revelation 7:7 the tribe of ISSACHAR is mentioned one last time as being sealed. That seal is a protection from God's wrath. We too are sealed with the Holy Spirit and can rest in the LORD that we are protected just like the SONS OF ISSACHAR.

As we read in Ecclesiastes 3, everything has its time and purpose under heaven.

Moving in the ISSACHAR anointing during these turbulent times will help us to reach our world for Jesus Christ. The world is fearful, without hope and confused. They cannot discern the times or seasons they need an ISSACHAR to show them the way.

So, what time is it?

It's your time; it's your season! Seize that Kairos time of an Issachar anointing and walk in it!