



REFLECTIONS

January 30, 2011

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever.**

Isaiah 40:8 NKJV

Season's End

Countryside drives were simply breathtaking that spring. Trees, budding with tender green leaves, accentuated the rolling contours of hillsides and meadows that were blanketed with the deep blue of Texas Bluebonnets. The patches of blue were not just along the roadside, but there were fields and fields of them like I had not seen before or since. If ever one wondered about the glory of God, this was one of the scenes to see. Yet within a few short weeks, the deep blue of the countryside cast its seeds on the ground and faded away. The season's end was replaced with the green of fresh grasses and color splashes from other flowering plants that would also cast their seeds and wither away at their season's end.

Then another season would dawn, flourish, and as the sun set on it, the countryside would don the colors of nature's night clothing. Trees that had awakened in the spring with tender green leaves would dress themselves in vibrant yellow, orange, and gold as they plant their seeds around their dwelling places. And the season would end.

The psalmist reminds that, "*The length of our days is seventy years — or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.*" (Psalms 90:10) And James asks, "*What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.*" (James 4:14)

Although we know our life on earth is but a passing season, God placed us here to bring glory to his name just as He placed trees on the hillsides and flowers in the meadows. While in season, our lives bloom and flourish to decorate the meadows and hillsides of life to bring glory to God's holy name. Then like the grass that grows and withers away, we plant new seeds that will be born to bring new life and new flowers to bloom in seasons that are yet to come. And they will live to reveal God's glory just as we pray that our lives once did.

God lives forever, but our time on earth lasts only a season. And at our season's end, God's blessing to us is that He made us a part of it all.

Thanks be to our eternal God.

"You are the light of the world."

Richard +

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