Ecclesiastes Luke 9: 18-22

"There is a season for everything, a time for every occupation under Heaven...."

The Reading provides a beautiful passage to express the reality of all that we may expect in our lives. How often, and perhaps naturally, do we hope for good things and a life full of peace and comfort. Here we are reminded that there will be twists and turns and highs and lows on our brief journeys. How can we understand the reasons and purpose for each season? The writer tells us, "All that he (man) does is apt for its time"and...."Man cannot comprehend the work of God from beginning to end."

Jesus picks up this theme when he talks about his future suffering and death. He responds to Peter's assertion that He was, "The Christ of God," by explaining, "The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be put to death, and to be raised up on the last day." At that point in time the Apostles could not see past the cross. They could not understand that the very act of dying a cruel death would bring such a wonderful conclusion.

As Jesus put his faith and trust in his Father, God, on his own journey through life, so we are to do the same. We will experience many different seasons. But if we rest in God's hands, we will inevitably gain our reward too.