



## The Love That Is Here To Stay

**“It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning,; great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him” (Lamentations 3:22-24).**

Henry Ward Beecher, the famous 19<sup>th</sup> – century American preacher once said, “Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures.” Every single creation whether a work of art, a music score, a chapter of literature or even the children that God blesses us with mirror who we are. During this season of the year the colors of fall are breathtaking. As I view this panoramic portrait, my faith tells me that God, the Supreme Artist, has taken his paint brush, dipped it into the creative and compelling palette of his incomparable essence and splattered the landscapes with colorful hues that hint to all who truly observe and wonder that “God stands within the shadows keeping watch over His own.” Indeed, in the marvelous march of this majestic mosaic of colors, the words of the Apostle Paul to the Romans ring true, “For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen being understood by the things that are made., even His eternal power and godhead” (Romans 1:20a).

From another perspective, the fall of the year marks the end of summer and the approaching advent of winter. The colors soon fade; deterioration levies its inevitable toll and the once pleasing and proud plumage fall to the earth in a timely death. This is a reminder to all of us that life is transient and transitory and that true happiness and joy cannot be found in the seasonal or the sensory but in Him who is the Compelling Constant of life. The times and the seasons are in our Creator’s hands and He knows what is best for us. Our lives, while constantly subject to the ravages of change and transition are not arbitrary. God made us in His image and then saved us through the offering of His only Son for our sins. In Him, we are designer men and women vested with dignity and destiny. Jeremiah the prophet encountered this wondrous truth when God said to him, “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end” (Jeremiah 29:11).

For the child of God, like the seasons of the year endings and beginnings are intertwined and interlaced. Oscar Wilde once said that “life imitates art and art imitates life.” Therefore, I am encouraged by the words of the popular song by Dru Hill titled “So Special” that describes superbly well the constancy of a lover’s care,

***“Winter spring  
Summer fall  
These four seasons tell it all  
Each has a special way  
Of saying my love is here to stay.”***

Celebrate with me today the constancy of the One whose love is here to stay!

Dr. T.D. Stubblefield, Pastor-Teacher

### Our Vision :

To move “*Forward in Faith*” emulating the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, ministering to all people, exalting the Savior, equipping and supporting the members for ministry, and evangelizing the lost, while continuing to share our rich Christian and cultural heritage.

### Our Mission:

To advance the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in accordance with Matthew 28:18-20, through preaching of the Gospel, consistent Christian living, personal evangelism, missionary endeavor, Christian education and the public worship of God.