

*A  
Season  
of  
Purpose*



Terry R. Baughman

*the*  
**Baughman**  
*Group*  
MINISTRIES  
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# *A Season of Purpose*

## Seasonal Inspiration

Terry R Baughman



ISBN 978-0-9818959-0-1  
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Cover design: Josh Rivas, Stockton, CA

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To my wife Gayla  
who constantly believes in me



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## *Seasonal Inspiration*

### Introduction to the Series

Each week I obligate myself to write a devotional for the Sunday bulletin. It is both a printed bulletin for the congregation and an emailed *Pastor's Communiqué* sent to all who request it. That self-imposed writing discipline has been a bane and a blessing! Admittedly, at times I have been too busy to be creative and have either recycled a previous inspirational writing or asked my wife to contribute to the cause. I have included a few of her contributions to the project. But for the most part this routine has made me write something weekly for over ten years.

The idea of publishing these inspirational writings has nagged at the corner of my mind for some time, but I did not want to publish the traditional devotional book commonly found on bookstore shelves. While considering the various church events and holiday celebrations of each year, a more thematic model of book design began to emerge. What if the events of the year were broken down into seasons? (*Originally God's idea.*) Common themes and events each year were frequently the subject of my writing; so the concept of *Seasonal Inspiration* was born. I grouped the devotionals around common themes. Holidays play a large role in the seasons, but as a church there are other seasons as well: themes of prayer, cycles of renewal and revival, times of evangelistic thrusts, and calls to commitment and discipleship.

Building on a thematic approach for the project, I began to arrange this collection of inspirational writings loosely around the four seasons: *Winter* (January through March), *Spring* (April through June), *Summer* (July through September), and *Autumn* (October through December). Rather than simply identifying the quarters

of the calendar, I sought for overarching themes for each season. Thus was born the design for the four books of this series, *Seasonal Inspiration*:

- A Season of Purpose – *Commitment of a New Year*
- A Season of Passion – *Conception of a New Life*
- A Season of Promise – *Confirmation of a New Birth*
- A Season of Praise – *Continuation of a New Hope*

Further introductions to these themes will be provided in the individual books.

I trust that the inspiration I have felt in writing these short thoughts may ignite something in you to further excite your passion for God. May they become the source of deepened devotional times with God, the spark for powerful sermon development, the impetus for new commitment to Christ, or the catalyst for positive change in a stymied spiritual experience. However God uses them, and however they speak to you, it will be gratifying to know that the meager words of my weekly travail in writing have served some productive result.

*Thank you for reading!*

Terry R. Baughman  
September 2008



## *Seasons*

**W**inter's dark draws the soul to the hearth  
To breathe from the orange coals of warmth  
A purpose to live and zeal to pursue  
The dream that is born in the heart.

**S**pring's fragrance brings hope and new life at last  
Our passion exults and proclaims  
Our reason to dream and vision to breathe  
Rise up from the ruins of our pain.

**S**ummer's sun shines long with bright rays of light  
To chase the cause of our birth  
And promise grows deep within the glad heart  
Sharing hope of new sight on earth.

**A**utumn's leaves shower paths with dark destiny  
Mortality breathes on our face  
And praise is our song in gathering gloom  
To usher a new day of grace.

Through seasons we sing of life and of love  
Time marks the passage of days  
Design is seen in all of life's paths  
Fulfilling our fate in God's ways.

*Terry R. Baughman  
May 25, 2008*