**Title:** Passion Prevails: Time and Seasons

**Introduction:**

* Personal anecdote: The joy of receiving a toy as a child and playing with it tirelessly.
* Analogy: Comparing passion for an object or food to passion for a person.
* The statistics: One out of seven couples end in divorce. Questioning the disappearance of initial passion.

**Subject: The World Battles for Your Love and Passions**

* **Genesis 29:15-20**: The story of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel.
  + Key verse: "Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed only a few days to him because of the love he had for her."
* Overview: The foundation of a nation (Israel) through Jacob, Leah, and Rachel.
  + Jacob’s love for Rachel and the sacrifice of fourteen years of labor.
  + The principle of "You Reap What You Sow" is illustrated through Jacob's story.

**Relating to Deep Love and Passion:**

1. Sacrifices made for loved ones (spouse, children, grandchildren).
2. Misguided passions leading to negative outcomes (addictions, materialism).

**Illustration: The Power of Love:**

* Love's ability to penetrate and influence all aspects of life.
* Examples of extraordinary acts driven by love in relationships, sports, addictions, and work.

**Section on Passion and Emotion:**

* Definition: Passion as an intense, driving, or overmastering feeling.
* Example: Soccer players' dedication and discipline.
* Jacob's fourteen years of labor for Rachel as an example of pure passion.

**The Problem of Misguided Passion:**

* Passion turned into lust and sinful pleasures.
* Transformation through Christ:
  + **2 Corinthians 5:17**: Becoming a new creation in Christ.
  + **John 3:16**: God's sacrificial love for humanity.
  + **Acts 1:3**: Jesus' suffering and passion.

**Personal Reflection and Transformation:**

* Personal testimony of a long-lasting relationship with Jesus and its transforming power.
* Reflection on marriage and the perception of time.
* The importance of making time on earth productive and meaningful.
  + **Ephesians 5:16**: Redeeming the time wisely.

**Conclusion: The Essence of Passion and Sacrifice:**

* Governed by wisdom and diligence.
* Biblical examples:
  + Jacob’s fourteen years of labor.
  + Jonathan’s courage in battle.
  + God’s sacrificial love through Jesus.
  + Jesus’ passion for humanity.

**Where Do We Stand?**

* **Romans 8:36-39**: The invincible love of God in Christ.
* **1 John 2:16**: The worldly desires vs. divine priorities.

**Final Exhortation:**

* **1 John 4:4**: Overcoming the world through Christ.
* Encouragement to maintain passion for God:
  + Stay centered on Jesus.
  + Use wisdom and diligence in all pursuits.
  + Reflect on personal passions and prioritize God.
  + **2 Timothy 1:6**: Fan the flame of God's gift within.

**Closing Thoughts:**

* Take steps to rekindle passion through prayer, evangelism, and scripture reading.
* Encouragement to persevere and deepen one’s relationship with God.