## This Time of Year

Pastor Sharon Bendixen - 05 December 2023

This month of December going into January is sacred to me I'm going to be so awake There's so much at stake I'm at my post. I'm in Your army You've not given me leave You've got some things up your sleeve For me to see, for me to know. So I'll show I'm at attention. I'm not slack Not gonna lose my footing. Not going back I'm showing up in the spirit. I'm in position Not going to lose ground, going to go higher Not going AWOL. Not giving my body to other things I'm progressing and advancing in this way into 2024 I give myself holy to You You'll not find me asleep at this critical time I'm Yours, and You are mine You'll find my mind stayed on You You'll find me faithful. You'll find me true Not gonna do like the darkness of this world Their fun is not my fun This time of year, not going my own way This is my Sabbath This is my opportunity for a Crossover I cross over from the old to the new The old, old, old thinking about this time of year Dead, dead, dead in me, I'm so clear You'll find me so changed about December going into January In the future, this time is Yours. Forever to do what You will Sacred to You, these months will be. I'm in Your army I see, I see this opportunity for this to die You first, always You first. To this extent, this big May all the pleasures and activities of this world be like gravel in my mouth and set my teeth on edge I'm climbing up this mountain. I'm not falling from this ledge I'm making progress in my climb, not stopping now My eyes set on You Not doing Christmas like the world when there's a current war raging Raging for souls of men and women and boys and girls I'm not a partying Christian anymore My face is set like flint There is a resolve in me that's not been there before You can count on me at this time to be at my post watching and praying Not partying and playing. Not being at ease Oh, yes. Rest and refreshing will be my portion Praying in the Holy Ghost, and praising while at my post But partying and playing and being at ease For me? How I've been at this time of year, now it does cease Hmm? Hmm? Hmm? This is how it went in me Give my money I'm spending on myself? Allocated already in my envelope to some young one dedicated to You

Who does this? Me? Is there something here I must see? Is this holiday so sacred and holy to me that I can't see? Has it blinded me to You so long? Oh, I see now, I see I'll not go dark in this light. I'll cross over from the dark into this light Through the veil of Your blood, Jesus. I come. I'm Yours I'm giving my all to the call Here I am, wholly available to You Oh, I see. This time of year given to me My opportunity by You to come through My circumcision, my change, it's all happening right now I'll cancel all my plans. Holy available, here I am For me to be at ease means I'm standing with my feet apart And my hands behind my back It does not mean I'm slack My armor is still properly on. Even my sword is in my hand I'm a soldier. There's a war. I'm not burying my head in the sand I stand up. I stand tall, brave, and strong I'm a soldier of the cross. I give my all. To Him I belong Live for the cause of Christ, I will The cross before me, the world behind me No turning back. No turning back Not choosing a life of ease I choose the reproach of the cross I endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ It's not myself I please

