

Open It

How many of these times have touched your life (3:1-8)?

What one experience would you add to Solomon's list?

"There's a time to _____ and a time to _____."

Consider It

Does Solomon's view of time lead to despair or inspire hope (3:1-11)? Why?

Why would it be wise to give thought to the timing of our activities?

What has God placed in every human heart (3:11)?

How do people in our society wrongly seek to fill their longing for God?

What should we receive as a gift from God (3:12-13)?

What is the right time for justice? Why might it be better to wait (3:16-17; 2 Peter 3:9)?

What do we learn about God in this passage (3:11-17)?

How should the coming judgment affect the way we live?

Live It

Seek the Lord!

What eternal longing stirs in your heart? What would God like you to seek with all your heart?

Serve Others!

Who is experiencing a tough time? How might you come alongside them at this time?

Sow Seeds!

What is your "God's got this" story? Who needs to hear it?

The Quest for a Meaningful Life

Are You Having the Time of Your Life?

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

January 23rd & 24th, 2021

Sermon Proposition

You can begin to have the time of your life by meeting three prerequisites.

Accept the Times of Your Life 3:1-9

¹ For everything there is a season, a right time for every intention under heaven—² a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ³ a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, ⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, ⁵ a time to throw stones and a time to gather stones, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, ⁶ a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to discard, ⁷ a time to tear and a time to sew, a time to keep silent and a time to speak, ⁸ a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NIV)

Seek God's Perspective3:9-15

What does the worker gain from his efforts? ¹⁰ I have seen the task God has given humanity to keep us occupied. ¹¹ He has made everything suited to its time; also, he has given human beings an awareness of eternity; but in such a way that they can't fully comprehend, from beginning to end, the things God does. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for them to do than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live. ¹³ Still, the fact that everyone can eat and drink and enjoy the good that results from all his work, is a gift of God. ¹⁴ I know that whatever God does will last forever; there is nothing to add or subtract from it; and God has done it so that people will fear him. That which was is here already; and that which will be has already been, but God seeks out what people chase after.

Ecclesiastes 3:9-15 (CJB)

Prepare for Judgement 3:16-17

Another thing I observed under the sun: There, in the same place as justice, was wickedness; there, in the same place as righteousness, was wickedness. ¹⁷ I said to myself, "The righteous and the wicked God will judge, because there is a right time for every intention and for every action."

Ecclesiastes 3:16–17 (CJB)