

Ecclesiastes

FEAR GOD AND ENJOY HIS GIFTS

To understand and internalize the message of Ecclesiastes and learn how we fear God and enjoy the life that he gives us.

A Paradigm for understanding Ecclesiastes

הָבֵל HEVEL “Vanity, Meaningless, Futile” (Vapor) (Abel) - The Puzzle/Conundrum/Enigma

“Life Under the Sun” - The pattern of the life we build outside God.

“There is nothing better” (Seize the Day) - The way back to God’s presence and power. Enjoy life instead of commiserating over its brokenness.

**How does time enable us to
enjoy the life God gives us?**



Ecclesiastes 3:1 - “For everything,
there is a season and a time for
every matter under heaven.”

Ecclesiastes Ch 3 is a reflection on time and work. It is like an expose on Qoheleth's previous observations surrounding work and life and understanding the limitations which come with it.

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Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

1. What new or insightful things do you notice about this passage?

2. How does Qoheleth teach us to see time?

Question: What does Qoheleth mean when he says that God has put eternity in man's heart?

Jesus and Eternity

- **John 5:24** "Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life." He does not come into judgment but has passed from death to life!"
- **John 6:51** "he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

- 1. Time is limited, yet living with limits, teaches us to enjoy things while they last because life is full of beginnings, endings and inevitable change.**
- 2. While we are like God as his image beares, we are also not like him. Limits are humbling they help us understand that we are not God.**
- 3. Living with limited time, alongside the desire of eternity, causes us to look to Jesus in how we might experience eternal life here and now.**

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