

ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 3

¹ To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven. ² A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to root up what was planted; ³ a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to pull down, and a time to build up; 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 together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; ⁷ a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak; ⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

⁹ What advantage *has* he that works in those things in which he labors? ¹⁰ I have seen all the trouble, which God has given to the sons of men to be burdened with. ¹¹ All the things which He has made are beautiful in His time. He has also set the whole world in their heart, that man might not find out the work which God has done from the beginning, even to the end. ¹² I know that there is no good in them, except *for a man* to rejoice, and to do good in his life. ¹³ Also, every man who shall eat and drink, and see good in all his labor, *this* is a gift of God. ¹⁴ I know that whatsoever things God has done, they shall be forever. It is impossible to add to it, and it is impossible to take away from it; and God has done *it*, that *men* should fear at His presence. ¹⁵ That which has been is now; and whatever things *are appointed* to be have already been; and God will seek out that which is past.

¹⁶ And moreover I saw under the sun: *in* the place of judgment, wickedness *was* there; and in the place of righteousness, there was godliness. ¹⁷ And I said in my heart, "God will judge the righteous and the ungodly"; for there is a time there for every action and for every work.

¹⁸ I said in my heart, concerning the speech of the sons of men, "God will judge them," and that to show that they are beasts. ¹⁹ Also to them is the event of the sons of men, and the event of the brute; one event befalls them. As is the death of the one, so also the death of the other; and there is one breath to all; and what has the man more than the brute? Nothing; for all is vanity. ²⁰ All *go* to one place; all were formed of the dust, and all will return to dust. ²¹ And who has seen the spirit of the sons of men, whether it ascends upward? And the spirit of the beast, whether it descends downward to the earth? ²² And I saw that there was no good, but that wherein a man shall rejoice in his works, for it is his portion, for who shall bring him to see anything of that which shall be after him?