



# Ecclesiastes

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## Lesson 7 Study Notes – Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

### Pray

**Review:** Today we look at very familiar verses for the believers and unbelievers alike. The poetic quality of the list shows that even the tragic, dark aspects of life can be artfully and powerfully presented. It's important to note, with this chapter, Solomon begins to reexamine his first argument, which was the **monotony of life (1:4-11)**. He discovered four factors that must be considered before you can say that life is monotonous and meaningless.

### Reflect:

1. *Read all of chapter 3. Then slowly read verses 1-11 again.* How would you paraphrase verse one?
2. Not only are there times and seasons in this world, but there is also an overruling providence in our lives. In verses 2-8 there are 14 statements, Solomon affirms that God is at work in our individual lives, seeking to accomplish His will. Read these slowly. Are there any that really stand out to you during this season of your life?
3. Truly, to everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. God orders time... He predetermines the events of life. We should take full advantage of the time God gives us. What does Paul tell us in Eph. 5:16 that definitely relates?
4. How does Rom. 8:28 relate to what Solomon has said about God having a time and purpose for everything?
5. *Read Psalm 139:13-16.* How does this passage speak to the idea that God has prepared us individually for the work He has for us to do? See also Eph. 2:10.
6. In verse 11, what does it mean that an event is good "in its time"?
7. In verses 9-11, the Preacher has adjusted his sights. He is no longer looking at life how? Who has he finally brought into the picture in verses 10 & 11?
8. What was Solomon's first answer to the question "Is life worth it"? See *Ecclesiastes 3:10*. In what ways did Solomon see life as a gift?
9. Solomon finally mentions eternity. How does Solomon relate eternity to our hearts?

**Respond:**

1. Which of the “times and seasons” described in Ecclesiastes 3 are you experiencing now? How are you dealing with the challenges? How does knowing that there is a “time for everything” help you through both the good and bad times?