



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE MIST

THE SEASONS OF LIFE

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-15

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - January 22 & 23, 2022

1. Acknowledge _____

(vv. 1-10)

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 (ESV)

3 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

2 a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break 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 cast away 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 keep silence, and a time to speak;

8 a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

2. Trust _____

(vv. 11, 14-15)

9 What gain has the worker from his toil?

10 I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. 11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. 12 I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live; 13 also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man. 14 I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him. 15 That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already has been; and God seeks what has been driven away.

3. Be _____

(vv. 12-13)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the ways you might seek to manipulate our circumstances or control the seasons in your own life? What about this passage helps you see the futility in that and the beauty of the alternative of trusting God?

2. **Read Romans 8:28.** What are some of the ways you have seen this be true in your life? Why is it still often hard to trust that God will use even seemingly bad things for the good of believers?

3. **Read Lamentations 3:16-27.** What about Jeremiah’s example here can be helpful to you when you are looking at those proverbial “puzzle pieces” that really just don’t seem to fit with what you thought life or God’s plan would look like?

4. **Read Psalm 131.** What are some of the things that most disturb the “calm” and “quiet” in your soul? What are some of the things you have learned from this passage/message that can help you restore that contentment in your soul?

5. **Read Ecclesiastes 3:12.** Think specifically about the next week – especially your job, your home, and your relationships. What are some ways you can “do good” in these arenas this week no matter what season you are in?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES	PRAYER REQUESTS
<p><i>Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.</i></p> <p>Bridges, Jerry. <i>Trusting God</i>. NavPress, 1988.</p> <p>Gibson, David. <i>Living Life Backward</i>. Crossway, 2017.</p> <p>Wiersbe, Warren. <i>Be Satisfied</i>. Victor Books, 1990.</p>	<p>Pray that God would increase our trust in his ability to make all things beautiful in time.</p> <p>Pray that God would increase our joy and faithfulness.</p> <p>Pray that our contentment and joy would be a powerful witness in this Valley.</p> <p>Pray that our upcoming men’s event will encourage the souls of the men at CBCTV!</p> <p>Pray that God will provide a long-term home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.</p>

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	Old Testament	New Testament
1/24	Genesis 22-23	John 5:19-47
1/25	Genesis 24-25	Matthew 12:1-8, Mark 2:23-28, Luke 6:1-5
1/26	Genesis 26-27	Matthew 12:9-21; 4:25, Mark 3:1-12, Luke 6:6-11
1/27	Genesis 28-30	Mark 3:13-19, Luke 6:12-16
1/28	Genesis 31-32	Matthew 5:1-16, Luke 6:17-26
1/29	Genesis 33-35	Matthew 5:17-48, Luke 6:27-36