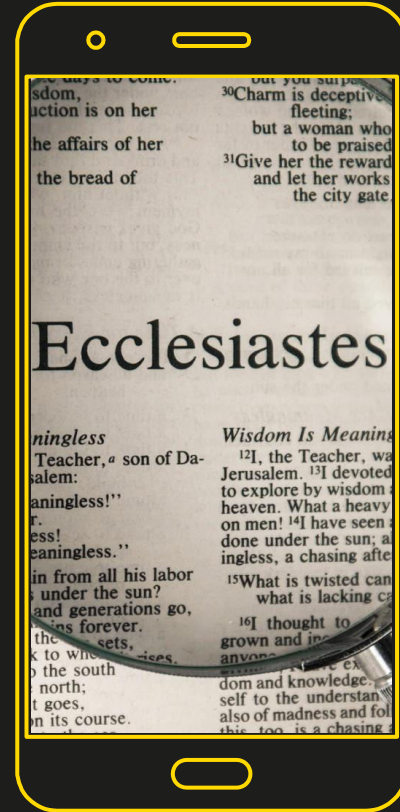


TIME IS
 **F** ESSENCE

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

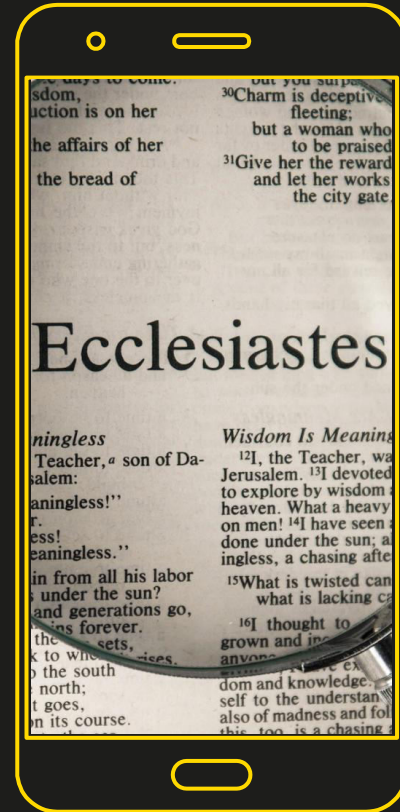
This was written by
Solomon, the son of
David.

The Hebrew term
Qoheleth (translated as
“the teacher”) suggests
someone who
aggregates something.

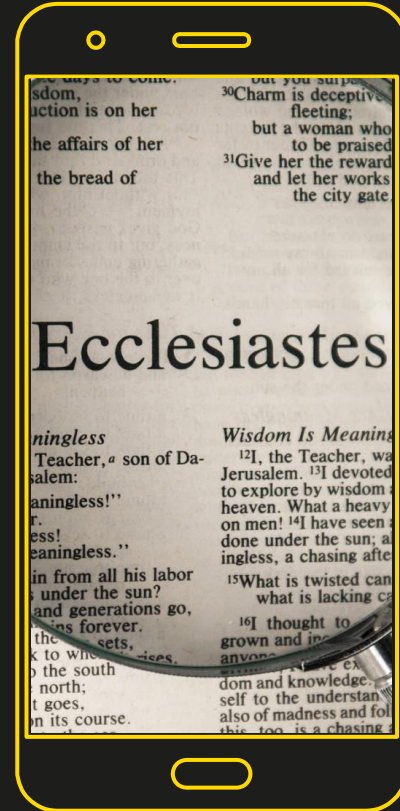


**Solomon was teaching
from the depth of
experience and not just
a mere theory.**

**Ecc. 1:1 “The words of the
Teacher, son of David,
king in Jerusalem”.**



The book of Ecclesiastes contains the thoughts of “the Philosopher,” a man who reflected deeply on how short and contradictory human life is and he could not understand the ways of God, who controls human destiny.



**We all may work the same hours but
earn a different salary.**

**We may all attend the same event but
eat a different meal.**

**Twins may be born on the same day
but die on a different day.**

Human's View of Time:

Two schools of thoughts

1. Humans have time in their hands.

2. Time is so fixed – The fatalistic view:

Human's View of Time: **Two schools of thoughts**

1. Humans have time in their hands.

James 4:13-15 ESV

13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit” —

Human's View of Time:

Two schools of thoughts

1. Humans have time in their hands.

James 4:13-15 ESV

14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Human's View of Time:

Two schools of thoughts

- 1. Humans have time in their hands.**

James 4:13-15 ESV

15 Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.”

Human's View of Time:

Two schools of thoughts

2. Time is so fixed – The fatalistic view:

The term "fatalism" can refer to any of the following ideas: Any view according to which human beings are powerless to do anything other than what they do and demonstrating a

Human's View of Time:

Two schools of thoughts

2. Time is so fixed – The fatalistic view:

belief that all events are inevitable, so one's choices and actions make no difference. A fatalistic view denies the possibility of free will. This is where you have the idea of Good luck (never in the dictionary of a believer).

Believers View of Time

As believers, we are to balance both ideologies and not be on either extreme. Our stand should be like that of Solomon in Eccl 3.

Believers View of Time

The Good news Bible gave us the best interpretation of Eccl 3 and the side of “Time” we should take.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

- 1 Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses.**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

- 2 He sets the time for birth and the time for death, the time for planting and the time for pulling up,**
-

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

3 the time for killing and the time for healing, the time for tearing down and the time for building.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

**4 He sets the time for sorrow
and the time for joy, the
time for mourning and the
time for dancing,**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

**5 the time for making love
and the time for not making
love, the time for kissing
and the time for not kissing.**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

**6 He sets the time for finding
and the time for losing, the
time for saving and the time
for throwing away,**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

7 the time for tearing and the time for mending, the time for silence and the time for talk.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

**8 He sets the time for love
and the time for hate, the
time for war and the time
for peace.**

“

**GOD SETS THE TIME (He chooses the time)
and we are stewards of the set time,
therefore what matters is what to do with God's
given time he has placed before us.**

What's the Keyword?

PATTERN / RHYTHM OF LIFE & TIME:

- 1. Solomon portrayed the pattern of human life in the event of time, having a mixture of the good and the bad and the ups and the down.**

PATTERN / RHYTHM OF LIFE & TIME:

2. Nothing is permanent and nothing can last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:18

“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal”.

PATTERN / RHYTHM OF LIFE & TIME:

3. Only God is not bound by time:

2 Peter 3:8

“But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day”.

PATTERN / RHYTHM OF LIFE & TIME:

3. Only God is not bound by time:

Rev 22:13

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End”.

WITHIN TIME & OUR RESPONSE:

CHANCE

CHOICE

PURPOSE

CHANCE

**Have you heard
this phrase before
“It’s one of those things”?**

CHANCE

Astrologists believe that a force usually decides if good luck or bad luck will happen to someone but this is not a Christian language.

CHOICE

**We are tempted to take laws
into our hands and say
*“I will decide my fate”.***

CHOICE

Luke 12:19-21 (NIV)

19 “And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”

CHOICE

Luke 12:19-21 (NIV)

20 “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

CHOICE

Luke 12:19-21 (NIV)

21 “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

PURPOSE

**God is a purposeful God,
he doesn't do anything without
any reason, we can either respond
to him or neglect him.**

**In mourning, there is a purpose,
in singing, there is a purpose, etc.**

“

“Lord, what do you want
me to do within these
seasons you have set”?

WHAT'S OUR RESPONSE TO TIME?

“

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end”.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

**Rejoices in the good
events of life and blame
God in the bad times.**

Unbelievers Approach to Time

**Rejoices in the good events
of life, praises God in the
difficult seasons of life and
learn from God's perspective.**

Believers Approach to Time

**To fear God who
set the bad and
the good time.**

Solomon's Approach to Time

Eccl. 3:14

I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

Solomon's Approach to Time

The best car, the most beautiful woman/handsome man, loads of money in your bank account, etc, nothing can satisfy the longing soul of a man except God.

Solomon's Approach to Time

Ecc 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Solomon's Approach to Time

Depreciation may be defined as the permanent decrease in the value of an asset through wear and tear in use or the passage of time. **Only the work of God is permanent, needs no modification, revaluation, impairments, etc.**

Your best car of 2 years ago, is now an old model.

Essence of Time in the NT

Ecc1 3:11 GNT

“He has set the right time for everything.
He has given us a desire to know the future, **but never gives us the satisfaction of fully understanding what he does”**

Essence of Time in the NT

Ephesians 1:9 NIV

“He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ”,

Essence of Time in the NT

Romans 8:28 NIV

And **we know** that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Essence of Time in the NT

Psalm 31:15 NIV

**My times are in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my
enemies, from those who pursue
me.**

“

To some people, it could be a
time to consider Christian service,
time to marry, time to dance,
time to rejoice or time to plant, etc.

Conclusion

“

You only have one life and God has placed several seasons before you.

Conclusion

“

To some people, it is time
to seek the Lord.

Conclusion

“Sow righteousness for yourselves,
reap the fruit of unfailing love, and
break up your unplowed ground;
for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes and showers his
righteousness on you”

Hosea 10:12 NIV

**6 Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.**

**7 Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.**

**Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have
mercy on them, and to our God, for he will
freely pardon.**

Isaiah 55:6-7 NIV