

God Forever

An Eternal God in Fleeting Moments

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

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Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,

a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. 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. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. 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.

Three Layers of Tension:

- Time
- Circumstances

Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

Ecclesiastes 3:2-4

A time to be born and a time to die.

A time plant and a time to uproot.

A time to kill and a time to heal.

A time to tear down and a time to build.

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 1:14

I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

Three Layers of Tension:

- Time
- Circumstances
- Choice

Ecclesiastes 3:9-13

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Ecclesiastes 3:12-13

I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.

Psalm 90:2

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Isaiah 40:28

Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

Psalm 45:6

Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of
justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

1 Timothy 1:17

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and
glory for ever and ever.

Jesus is the glory of God made manifest:

- The image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
(Colossians 1:15)
- The word of God made flesh. (John 1:14)
- In Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form. (Colossians
2:9)
- The same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)
- The Alpha and the Omega, first and the last, beginning and the end.
(Revelation 22:12-13)
- Immanuel—God with us. (Matthew 1:23)

John 6:26-27

Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.

John 6:47-51

Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

John 6:68-69

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Look Toward Eternity

Seek Eternal Perspective

Weekly Spiritual Practices

- Sabbath: a day resting in God’s completed work
- Communion: receiving Jesus as the bread of life

Pray with People