## A Time for Everything

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8; Psalm 31:15a

- I. <u>UNDER HEAVEN</u> (1:13-14)—the view changes
  - A. "Under the Sun"—worldly, observable, time-bound perspective
    - 1. Without divine reference or revelation
    - 2. All is vanity and striving after the wind
  - B. "Under Heaven" (1:13; 2:3; 3:1)—heavenly, eternal perspective
    - 1. With God as the reference point for understanding
    - 2. There is order, meaning and purpose
- II. <u>EVERYTHING</u> ()—full spectrum of human experience and emotion
  - **A.** <u>Life's Variety</u> ()—there is a righteous application of every emotion and of every human faculty and activity; there is a godly response to every event/ situation in life
    - **1. To be Born and to Die** (Ps 31:5, 15; 139:13, 16b)
    - 2. To Plant and to Uproot
    - 3. To Kill and to Heal
    - 4. To <u>Tear Down</u> and to <u>Build</u> (2 Cor 10:5)
    - 5. To Weep and to Laugh
    - 6. To Mourn and to Dance
    - 7. To Scatter and to Gather
    - 8. To Embrace and to Refrain from embracing (2 Jn 1:11)
    - 9. To Search and to Give Up
    - 10. To Keep and to Throw Away

- **11. To <u>Tear</u> and <u>Sew</u>** (Mat 15:14)
- **12. To be <u>Silent</u> and to <u>Speak</u>**. (Mat 7:6; Isa 53:7)
- **13.** To <u>Love</u> and to <u>Hate</u> (Ps 97:10; 11:15; Rom 12:9)
- **14.** For <u>War</u> and for <u>Peace</u> (Neh 4:14; Jer 6:14; Lk 22:36)
- **B.** God's Plan (Isa 45:7 & 53:10; Job 12:9; Gen 50:20)
  - 1. <u>Designed</u> with Purpose (Rom 8:18)—everything created for purpose
  - 2. Ordered with Intent (Rom 8:28)—God directs history
  - **3. Endowed with Meaning** (Lam 3:31-33)—nothing is random
- **C.** <u>God's Character</u>—Always good but deep and multifaceted; Negative emotions and actions can be righteous.
- III. <u>IT'S TIME</u>—when it's appropriate to expect a thing, act a certain way
  - A. <u>A Season</u> (2 Cor 6:2)—different, not random or instantaneous
    - **1.** A <u>span</u> of time ()—extended stretch or period of time
    - **2. When <u>particular conditions</u>** are <u>expected</u>—predictable, recurrent, not arbitrary or inconsequential
    - **3. When <u>particular actions</u>** need to be taken—ideal, appropriate, necessary; will not be effective in different season
  - **B.** <u>A Process</u> (1 Cor 3:7-8; Gal 6:9)—it takes time, develops in stages
  - C. <u>A Moment</u> (Est 4:14; Lk 12:12; 1 Chronic 12:23)—crisis, moment of destiny, action required

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