



# A LESSON ON TIME

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-11



# Willi and Lily Heinrichs



# Willi's baptism – Nov. 2001



# Three Concepts in a Thesis

- a **SEASON**: a fixed time, with a predetermined purpose
- “opportunity”
- God is the sovereign of the seasons

# Three Concepts in a Thesis

- A time: 28 occurrences
- 14 pairs in vv. 2 – 8
- Prov. 15:23b “. . . a word spoken in due season, how good is it!”

# TIME

- *“TIME is the stuff life is made of.” – Benjamin Franklin*
- *“The greatest use of life is to spend it on something that will outlast it.” – William James*

# God's Relationship to Time

Psalms 90:4; 2 Peter 3:8;

Isaiah 57:15

God is eternal, timeless. God exists outside of time.

# The significance of God's eternality

- ❖ God is able to see the past and the future as if they are the present.
- ❖ Because man is finite, he must trust completely in God's sovereign plan.



# God's Purpose – DECREE

- Ezra 6:3 – Cyrus
- Ezra 6:12 – Darius
- Ezra 7:12 – 13 Artaxerxes

# God's Decree Defined

*“His eternal decision  
rendering certain all things  
which shall come to pass.”*

Proverbs 16:4

# PURPOSE

Ecclesiastes 3:1 “*Every timed event has a “purpose”,*

Ecclesiastes 3:11 “*and every thing is “beautiful” in God’s time for it.”*

# A COMPLETE LIFE

Four = world

Seven = completeness

Fourteen Positives

Fourteen Negatives

# A Clear Inference

*“If we cooperate with God’s timing, life will not be meaningless.”*

# Merisms

<b>Born</b>	<b>Die</b>	<b>LIFE</b>
<b>Plant</b>	Pluck up	
<b>Kill</b>	Heal	
<b>Break down</b>	Build up	
<b>Weep</b>	Laugh	<b>EMOTION S</b>

# Merisms

<b>Mourn</b>	<b>Dance</b>	
<b>Cast away stones</b>	<b>Gather stones</b>	RELATIONSHIP S
<b>Embrace</b>	Refrain from Embracing	
<b>To get</b>	<b>To lose</b>	POSSESSION S
<b>To keep</b>	To cast away	

# Merisms

<b>To rend</b>	<b>To sew</b>	
<b>To keep silent</b>	<b>To speak</b>	
<b>To love</b>	<b>To hate</b>	<b>CONFLICT</b>
<b>War</b>	<b>Peace</b>	



# Life in the Son

- Jesus Christ is the LORD of time.
- Jesus Christ was exalted through the resurrection.

# Life in the Son

- *Crown him the Lord of years,*
- *the potentate of time,*
- *creator of the rolling spheres,*
- *ineffably sublime.*

# Timing in the Life of Christ

1. Birth – Galatians 4:4
2. Death – John 7:30; Romans 5:6
3. Resurrection – 1 Corinthians 15:4

# Timing for “Life in the Son”

## ***Three important truths***

- 1. Wait for God’s timing.*
2. Live knowing there is a time to die.

# Timing for “Life in the Son”

## ***Three important truths***

3. Make good use of the time you have.