

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

ECCLESIASTES 3

Ecclesiastes 3

Ecclesiastes three, along with Chapter Twelve are the only two chapters in this great book that will be covered in our journey through the 365 Key Chapters of the Bible. Ecclesiastes is the book of the "preacher" Hebrew "Kohelet" meaning, "one who puts or strings words together." In this case, one who puts words together into sentences that become "sermons" of Solomon. The Book of Ecclesiastes is written by Solomon, King of Israel and son of David, the wisest man who ever lived. According to I Kings 4:29-34, **"Now God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is on the seashore. Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the sons of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men, than Ethan the Ezrahite, Heman, Calcol and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was known in all the surrounding nations. He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon even to the hyssop that grows on the wall; he spoke also of animals and birds and creeping things and fish. Men came from all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the**

kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom." (I Kings 4:29-34) Many read this incredible book and only see the futility of life. Life is futile without God! This is the conclusion to which Solomon came at the end of his life.

The beauty of what Solomon wrote, and the truth contained in it is eternal in value. Truly there is a time of everything under heaven. Knowing God's will for your life is only part of doing God's will. Doing God's will involves knowing "what" He wants you to do, yes! But is also involves God's timing. Many in the Bible missed God's best because they ran ahead of God's timing of His will in their lives and tried to make it happen on their own, or they delayed and disobeyed. **"He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, He has put eternity in their hearts..."** (Ecclesiastes 3:11) God's will must be done in God's time.

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord, thank you for making everything beautiful in its time. Please help me to be so in tune with what you are saying to me that I do exactly what you want me to do, just when I need to do it!

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
