

Stewardship Series Time

Matthew 6:33 and Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Introduction:

- For the next three weeks we will spend time on Stewardship.
 - o Time
 - Talents
 - Treasures
- Today we will deal with the subject of Time
- In today's lesson, we learn that God is in control of the times and that we should stand in awe before him. How we use this time, God has allowed us to have is so very important.
- The writer of Ecclesiastes, also known as "Qoheleth" and "the Preacher,"
 wanted to know how to live a meaningful life. He tried all kinds of ways to
 find meaning but ultimately concluded that everything in life is
 meaningless without God.

Notes:

- I. The seasons of Life (vv. 1-8)
 - A. Verse 1: For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.
 - B. Verses 2-8: Illustrates the different seasons of life for a man.
 - C. How have we used these different seasons to glorify God and to seek the Kingdom of God first?
 - D. How are we using the season we are in now to glorify and seek the Kingdom of God first?

Notes:

- II. Reflection of God's Work (vv. 9-13)
 - A. Verse 9: What do people get for all their hard work?
 - 1. The Key Question for us to examine as we reflect on our lives and our walk with Christ
 - 2. Galatians 6:7-10: Don't be misled-you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone-especially to those in the family of faith.
 - B. Verses 10-13: I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from the beginning to end. So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy

ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts of God.

- 1. Be joyful
- 2. Do Good
- 3. Enjoy the Blessings of God.

Notes:

III. God's Sovereignty and Our Awe (vv. 14-15)

- A. Verse 14 and 15: And I know that whatever God does is final. Nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God's purpose is that people should fear him. What is happening now has happened before, and what will happen in the future has happened before, because God makes the same things happen over and over again.
 - God does endure forever and nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God is in control of all things, and His times make us aware of our helplessness and dependence on him.
 What has already been will be again, and God seeks what has been driven away.
 - 2. God is in control of all times.

Notes:

Conclusion:

 We often forget about God and fail to stand in awe before Him because we cannot see him.

- However, if we reflect on His greatness and our dependence on Him, we will be filled with awe.
- Seeking the Kingdom of God and using our time to glorify God, will allow us to stand amazed with whom we serve.
- I will repeat what Solomon asked in verse 9 but I will paraphrase it. What are we getting for all of our hard work? What are we sowing with the time we have here on earth?
- My challenge to me and for all of us, to use our time we have left to Seek First the Kingdom of God and all its righteousness.