



Session 3

The Time of Your Life - 3:1-8

- Seeing good times and bad times juxtaposed against each other, no doubt recalls memories. How does looking back across the years change your perspective for today?
- Time
 - Hebrew: *zeman* - *et*
 - Greek: *chronos* - *kairos*
(τοῖς πᾶσιν χρόνος καὶ καιρὸς τῷ παντί...
LXX)
 - What “time” does God use in Romans 5:6-8?



Idle Hands - 3:9-14

- Vs 11 - *beautiful* (Hbr: *yapheh*/Grk: *kalos* - good, useful, praiseworthy, pleasant)
 - *eternity in the hearts* - See Romans 2:15; Colossians 3:1
- Vs 14 - *satisfaction in all his toil*
 - Idle hands are the devil’s workshop? (2 Thess 3:11-12; Proverbs 18:9; Gen 2:15)

Fearing God

- “God does it so that men will revere him.” (3:14)
- “Therefore stand in awe of God.” (5:7)
- “The man who fears God will avoid all extremes.” (7:18)
- “Yet because the wicked do not fear God, it will not go well with them...” (8:13)
- “Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” (12:13)
- Proverbs 1:7, 29; 2:5; 3:7; 8:13; **9:10**; 10:27; 14:26, 27; 15:16, 33; 16:6; 22:4; 23:17; 24:21; 31:30
- “The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.” Job 28:28
- “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding.” Isaiah 11:1,2
- “...but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.” 1 Corinthians 1:24

Justice and Injustice - 3:15-22

- Because of the universality of sin, what undesirable situations arise within human society?
- Vs 17 - Judgement Day is also a *kairos* moment
- There is certainly a level where mankind is equated with every visible creature. What is that? Yet there is a level of superiority. What is that? See Gen. 1:28.

Oppression - 4:1-12

- What instances of oppression from history cause you the greatest concern?
- What do you think about his argument in vss 2-3? Do you agree? See Job 10:18.
- Vs 4 - *envy of his neighbor* - Would you be working as hard today if you had nothing to compare it to?
- Vs 5 - *the fool folds his hands and...* - wait, what?
- Vs 6 - Having less generates tranquility, so far as one is content in the Giver of the gifts.
- How does having a Christian friend in your life give you support and strength? (Vs 9-12)
 - Just how much is the Church supposed to be involved in the lives of each other?
- Vss 13-16 appear to reference Joseph's rise under Pharaoh, though his reign blew away into the wind.
- Vss 13-16 also ironically call out Solomon's own youthful son, Rehoboam, who rejects all admonition, counsel, and accountability.

7 Negative Aspects of Life Under the Sun

- Oppression
- Envy
- Idleness
- Discontent with little
- Miserliness
- Loneliness
- Inability to compromise