

Finding Meaning: Wisdom from Ecclesiastes  
The Problem with Time  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

The most constant and absolute thing in the physical universe is experienced in the most subjective and relative way. We say the universe runs like clockwork because time is dependable and consistent. Yet, when we are having a bad day, time stands still. When we are on vacation, time flies by. So, which one is it?

1. Time is meaningless without \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Time is meaningless without \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Time is meaningless without \_\_\_\_\_.

Every future moment of time for us carries a tone of uncertainty, but from the perspective of our eternal God, time and all of its moments are created and ordered by Him. Galatians 4:4 says that when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son. When it was time, Jesus came to save the world.

#### Reflection

In what ways do you find the seasons of your life comforting? In what ways are they concerning? Do you feel that time is moving too fast or too slow? Why? In what ways do you feel you are spinning your wheels? What needs to change in your life so that you value the time that has been given to you? What are some indicators in your life that you were made for more than time and were meant for eternity? Were there trying times in your life that you did not understand at the time, but as you look back, you can see God's purpose in all of it? How does knowing that God has a grand plan help you enjoy life now? What are some things that you need to enjoy more deeply in light of that reality?