The March of Time

Brent Moody · Ecclesiastes 3:1–8 · Series: **Life Under the Sun**

INTRODUCTION

- Time is inescapable, it's just part of our reality. In fact, God's story begins with the establishment of time.
- God transcends time, he is above it, but he has created it for his purposes for us to dwell in and to exist within.
- The whole point of that is then to see the hope that comes in understanding what we have through Jesus Christ.

1 A Time for Every Matter Under Heaven

Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

- For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.
- The point that the teacher's making here is not to give us comfort.
- He's actually highlighting human powerlessness. That all these things happen to you, and really you don't have much control over them.

2 Time's Cadence Is Relentless and Unyielding

- Time is not within our control. Time doesn't care about my plans. Time is harsh. It's indifferent.
- You do not know what tomorrow brings. What is your life? For you were a mist.
- Life doesn't stop when you have a difficulty or a struggle.
- Right when you think you've got it figured out, a new season comes. And now everything changes again.

3 Time Is a Reminder of Human Limitations

Ecclesiastes 3:11

- Time always wins. We will never defeat time.
- He has put eternity in our hearts, but we are stuck in time, and we cannot possibly comprehend the big picture.
- We need to learn to leave that to God.
- The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all.

4 The Answer Is to Spend My Time Well

Ecclesiastes 3:12; Ephesians 5:16

- There is nothing better for them than to be joyful, to do good as long as they live.
- The answer is to spend my time well.

- Make the best use of the time because the days are evil.
- When you have those good days, celebrate, enjoy them. They are a foretaste of the rest that is to come.

5 Remember Your Creator in the Days of Your Youth

- Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth.
- Know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.
- Don't waste your time and your youth saying, someday I will grow my relationship with God.
- How can I, in this moment, right now, in the situation I'm in, best serve the Lord.

6 The Ultimate Answer: Times of Refreshing Through Jesus

Acts 3:19

- The ultimate answer is the joy that we find through Jesus Christ.
- You need to repent and turn back so that times of refreshing can come from the presence of the Lord.
- The focus of our life needs to be Jesus Christ and God's plan through him.

THE CHALLENGE

Fear God, keep His commandments, know that he has a plan, and we can trust Him even when we don't know it.

MY NOTES