WHAT TIME IS IT?

Coming To Terms With Reality - Part 3

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**Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NIV) – Memory Verse**  
He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 – Scripture Reading**

There’s a four-letter word that many of us can’t stand to hear. Some cringe when it’s spoken; others begin to sweat at the thought of it. Yet we talk about it regularly and think about it  
constantly. This four-letter word controls our lives, and there’s simply no escaping it. What is this irritating utterance?  
Time

**Three questions to ask about time:**

What is time? **The Way We Measure Events and The Passing Moments Of Our Life**

Why is time so important? **It Is Completely Irretrievable**

When will time end? **When The Physical Universe As We Know It Ceases To Exist**

Scripture speaks a lot about time. One of the most instructive is found in Ephesians 5:15-17

**Ephesians 5:15-17 (NIV)**   
Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (NIV)**   
1  There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:

**All-Pervading Opposites** (Ecc. 3:2-8)

2  a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,

3  a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,

4  a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,

5  a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain,

6  a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,

7  a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,

8  a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

**All-Encompassing Questions** (Ecc. 3:9-10)

What's the Profit?

9  What does the worker gain from his toil?

What's the Purpose?

10  I have seen the burden God has laid on men.

**All-Important Conclusions** (Ecc. 3:11)

11  He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

* **God Has Made Everything Appropriate In His Time**
* **God Has Put Eternity In Our Hearts**
* **In this Life We Cannot Discover God’s Eternal Plan**