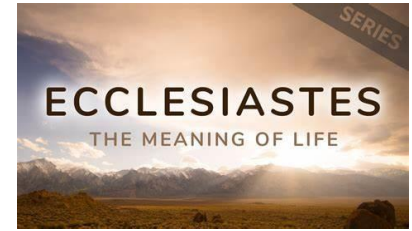


# Questions Through Ecclesiastes

## Lesson 2: What does it mean that there is a time to plant and a time to uproot?

### Ecclesiastes 3:2b



- \* In (Eccl. 3:1–8), King Solomon introduces a series of fourteen opposing seasons and events in the cycle of life. All of the moments in Solomon’s list combine to represent the whole of \_\_\_\_\_ activity in its varied expressions.
- \* Solomon acknowledges that every moment has its proper \_\_\_\_\_ and appointed by God.
- \* The first two pairings—“a time to be born and a time to die” and “a time to plant and a time to uproot”—represent \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, new life, and the inevitability of death.
- \* Birthing and planting represent the giving of \_\_\_\_\_. There are occasions when we produce life by giving birth or planting seeds in the ground. Yet, for every person, there is also an \_\_\_\_\_ time to die (Job 14:5; Heb. 9:27), just as there are designated agricultural seasons for uprooting and harvesting crops.
- \* In the New Testament, Jesus illustrates an important spiritual truth through a metaphor of planting and uprooting (John 12:24–25). Only by \_\_\_\_\_ His life would \_\_\_\_\_ life come.
- \* \_\_\_\_\_ life for the many would come through the sacrifice and death of the One (2 Cor. 5:14–15). Jesus was the grain of \_\_\_\_\_ that had to fall into the ground and die before becoming \_\_\_\_\_ in the Father’s purpose—to provide eternal life for all who would believe in Him (John 3:16).
- \* in the same way, as followers of Christ, it is in \_\_\_\_\_ that we \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 6:4–8; 1 Cor. 15:36; Gal. 2:20). Jesus said (Matt. 16:24–25; Mark 8:34–35).
- \* Christ’s teaching helps us understand why God sometimes allows us to experience difficult seasons of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* For every Christian, there is a time to \_\_\_\_\_ and a time to \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 9:37; Luke 10:2; Ps. 126:5), a time to be born \_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:3–7), and a time to \_\_\_\_\_ to self (Luke 14:27; Gal. 5:24).
- \* We can’t experience the \_\_\_\_\_ of birth or the glorious sprouting of new life that bears abundant fruit, unless we pass through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of travail, uprooting, and death.