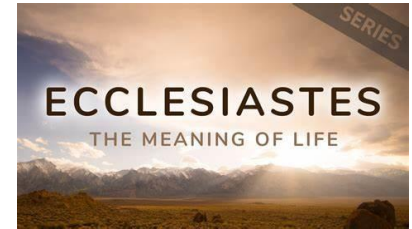


# Questions Through Ecclesiastes

## Lesson 4: What does it mean that there is a time to kill and a time to heal?

### Ecclesiastes 3:3a



- \* In (Eccl. 3:1–8), King Solomon recognizes that God controls the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of every human life.
- \* God’s law plainly states, “*You shall not murder*” (Ex. 20:13). How, then, is there a time to kill?
- \* Sin brought decay and \_\_\_\_\_ into the world, and it wasn’t long before humans became involved in the act of killing (Gen. 4:8).
- \* Solomon is not advocating for \_\_\_\_\_ punishment or mercy killing. Yet God in His inscrutable sovereignty permits some to \_\_\_\_\_ and others to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* Solomon’s observations are not concerned with the \_\_\_\_\_ questions surrounding killing and murder. He is merely asserting some central facts of life: “*There is a time to be born and a time to die*”, “*There is a time to kill and a time to heal*”.
- \* Destruction and death are \_\_\_\_\_ aspects of life (Heb. 9:27). Thankfully, healing and rebuilding are part of our existence as well.
- \* The word for “to heal” in the original Hebrew means “to \_\_\_\_\_ a cure for or make healthy again (whether physically or spiritually); repair, rebuild” (Isa. 19:21–22).
- \* Sometimes, for physical healing to occur, certain bacteria, micro-organisms, or hostile cells, must be killed before the human body can be restored to health. Likewise, spiritual healing often follows a season of \_\_\_\_\_ (Hos. 6:1, Ps. 147:3).
- \* When we cooperate with God, trusting that even the most painful and challenging seasons serve a purpose in His plan, He makes everything \_\_\_\_\_ in its time (Eccl. 3:11).
- \* There is a time to kill and a time to heal also parallels a metaphor for the process of \_\_\_\_\_. In the Christian life, we are called to “put to \_\_\_\_\_” the misdeeds of our sinful nature so that we can live a \_\_\_\_\_ and wholesome life by the power of the Spirit (Rom. 8:13; Col. 3:5).