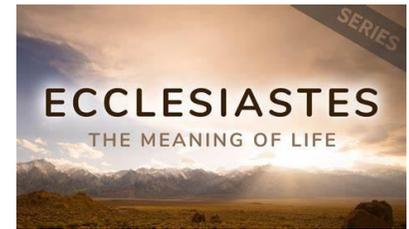


# Questions Through Ecclesiastes

## Lesson 5: What does it mean that there is a time to tear down and a time to build?

### Ecclesiastes 3:3b



- \* God deliberately \_\_\_\_\_ each moment to create the beautiful tapestry of our lives (v. 11).
- \* Paired with “a time to kill, and a time to heal” is “a time to break down, and a time to build up”. In the original Hebrew, the words translated “break down” mean “\_\_\_\_\_.” The contrasting term “build up” refers to “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- \* Solomon’s “time to break down” and “time to build up” refer to the processes of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* In a \_\_\_\_\_ sense, believers experience seasons of breaking down the old way of life and building up the new. Christians are to “put to death” or destroy the flesh—the “earthly nature” (Col. 3:5–10).
- \* God has given us spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor 10:4–5).
- \* The process of \_\_\_\_\_ involves the Holy Spirit working within us to rebuild and reshape us according to the pattern and image of Christ (Rom. 8:29–30). The apostle Peter describes the process in (1 Peter 2:5).
- \* Those who are lifted up with \_\_\_\_\_ are destined to endure seasons of breaking down: “Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall” (Proverbs 16:18, 18:12). The Bible speaks of a \_\_\_\_\_ road that leads to destruction for those who do evil (Matt. 7:13; Isa. 59:7; Isa. 28:22, Ps. 28:4-5).
- \* Being torn down and destroyed is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ungodly but building up is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the body of Christ, the church (Eph. 4:11–12, 16; 1 Cor. 14:12, 2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10; Rom. 14:19).
- \* The words we speak ought not to be “\_\_\_\_\_” but instead “\_\_\_\_\_” for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen” (Eph 4:29, 1 Thess. 5:11; Rom. 15:2).
- \* There are times when God must \_\_\_\_\_ up the fallow ground of sin in the believer’s heart (Hosea 10:12). He often uses painful seasons to \_\_\_\_\_ us and bring us back to Him in repentance (Prov. 3:11–12; Heb. 12:5–11).

\* In \_\_\_\_\_ when you feel tore down, when everything seems to be falling apart, remember and trust that God is \_\_\_\_\_ your life on the firm, unshakable, and everlasting foundation of Jesus Christ (Matt. 7:24–27; Luke 6:46–49; 1 Cor. 3:10–17; Eph. 2:19–22).