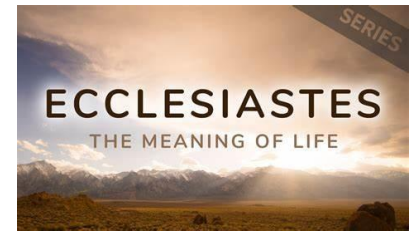


Questions Through Ecclesiastes

Lesson 12: What does it mean that there is a time to love and a time to hate?

Ecclesiastes 3:8a



- * Is there ever a time for _____ to hate? The Bible mentions several things God hates and, therefore, believers should also hate (Rev. 2:6, 15). Jeremiah highlights God’s hatred of _____ (Jer. 44:4–5; Deut. 12:31; 16:22). Isaiah and Amos speak of the Lord’s hatred of _____ (Isa. 1:14–17; Amos 5:21–24). Proverbs 6:16–19 lists _____ things that God hates: arrogance, deception, murder, wicked plotting, evil inclinations, slander, and troublemaking. The psalmist declares, (Ps. 97:10), and Solomon instructs (Prov. 8:13).
- * Loving God means hating _____. The whole truth of God’s love includes getting angry about sin and its effects on humanity (Ps. 7:11). Jesus was furious when He cleansed the temple, but His anger did not change His nature as a loving God (1 John 4:7–21).
- * “A time to love and a time to hate” cover the full range of human _____ and _____.
- * Jesus explains the high cost of loving and following Him (Luke 14:26). While there are times when _____ is appropriate, _____ is the defining characteristic of true believers (John 13:34–35).
- * Jesus calls us to love in His two greatest mandates (Matt. 22:37, 39). In addition, He asks us to love our _____ and pray for those who persecute us (Matt. 5:43–44).
- * Scripture is filled with examples of “a time to love.” We love because _____ first loved us (1 John 4:7, 19; Romans 5:8). Even our ability to love comes from Him (Gal. 2:20).
- * Believers are to “be _____ to one another in love” (Rom. 12:10), _____ one another (John 13:1–17), and live in unity with the same attitude and humility as Christ (Phil. 2:1–4). _____ we do is to be done in love (1 Cor. 16:14).
- * Solomon’s reflection on “a time to love and a time to hate” is also an excellent reminder to love _____ while hating their sins. God accomplishes this perfectly, but how do we in our human imperfection love sinners as God loves them, in holiness and without malice?
- * We love them by sharing the truth of the _____ message with them so they can find forgiveness and freedom from sin in Jesus Christ. We love sinners by _____ them kindness, acceptance, and respect even as we disapprove of their behavior. We _____ sin by not excusing it, ignoring it, or partaking in it.