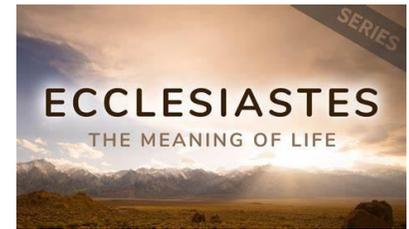


# Questions Through Ecclesiastes

## 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.