

UNITED FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF GOD

Bible Study: Knowing your Purpose Lesson Three

Interpreter of Scripture: The Holy Spirit

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Reference Materials, KJV/AMP/ Excerpts from In Pursuit of Purpose Dr. Myles Munroe

Life without purpose is time without meaning....Dr. Myles Munroe

Have you ever sat in an airport or train station and watched the people moving through the building? Some walk slowly and casually. Others stride hurriedly and intently, perhaps sprinting or running. The difference in pace is often related to time. Some are early. Others are late. Each there is a purpose.

Time is an important part of our lives. It gives order to our days and allows us to set schedules. But schedules in and of themselves are worthless unless we have a purpose behind the schedule.

It is useless to keep track of time if there is no end toward which we are moving

A Time for Everything

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 Ecclesiastes is a book that presents an important perspective on time.

- ✓ 3:1 a season ... a time: Both words are usually regarded as being specific points in time rather than a continuity of time. under heaven: That is, life "under the sun," the sphere in which human life is lived.
- ✓ 3:2 born ... die: The pairs of words in these verses are natural events in human life, and all are under the hand of the living God.
- ✓ 3:3 A time to kill: In the plan of God, there is a time for executing murderers (Gen. 9:6) and for going to war against enemies designated by God. A time to break down: There is a time for dismantling walls, stone buildings, or even nations (Is. 5:5; Jer. 18:7, 9).
- ✓ 3:4 weep ... laugh: God's plan includes both sorrows and joys. Believers do not mourn in the same way as unbelievers (1 Thess. 4:13), but we do mourn (Matt. 5:4). Dancing and leaping are natural ways of expressing laughter, pleasure, and joy in the presence of the Lord (Ex. 15:20; Pss. 149:2, 3; 150:4) and in times of personal happiness (Luke 15:25).
- ✓ 3:5 In times of peace, stones were cleared from the fields, allowing for cultivation. In wartime, the rocks were thrown on the fields to make them unusable (2 Kin. 3:19, 25). to embrace: In this context the words describe the sexual embrace.

- ✓ 3:6 to keep ... to throw away: There is a period of life in which one wishes to accumulate things for enjoyment and memories; later in life one needs to work out ways to dispose of what has been accumulated.
- ✓ 3:7 When bad news came, it was customary to rip one's garments to show grief (2 Sam. 13:31). When the problem passed, it was just as well to sew the garment back together. silence ... speak: See the two contrary ways of responding to a fool (Prov. 26:4, 5).
- ✓ 3:8 In this verse the first part names the positive love first, then the negative hate. The second part uses the reverse order, negative then positive, to end with peace.

Time is a Temporary Interruption in Eternity

God is outside of time even though His works are in the realm of time. God, who sees our end from the beginning, sets our time and purpose in accordance with His overall purpose.

His timing is always better than ours because he sees our whole life and how it fits into His eternal purpose

Isaiah 55: 8-9,11

God's way is different from man's way. The gospel is God's way. It is not man-made. No man could ever have devised it.

- ✓ Gal. 1:11–12 “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ”. The gospel came down from heaven. It is God's gospel.
- ✓ God's gracious thoughts exceed all human imagination (64:4; Rom. 11:33; 1 Cor. 2:9; Eph. 3:20). No one can fathom the depths of His wisdom.
- ✓ Isaiah 55:10–13 God's word never fails to accomplish His purpose. The Hebrews viewed the spoken word as having a power of its own once it left the mouth of the speaker. Like the arrow shot from the bow, the spoken word could not be recalled. God remains faithful to His word. His word restores life to His people as surely as the rain coming down from the heavens brings new life to the earth.
- ✓ Isaiah 55:10, 11 bring forth: For a similar reference, see 2 Cor. 9:10. God's word is similar to rainfall; it produces fruit (Ps. 147:15–20). Just as water enlivens and strengthens a withering rose, God's word produces life in the hearts of sinners.

God created you to fulfill His purpose in time

- ✓ Psalm 139:16
- ✓ Jeremiah 1:5a

God gives you time to come into perfection

- ✓ Life experiences
- ✓ Identifying with the scriptures

You Must capture and maximize the time of your life

- ✓ Discover your purpose
- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ reading of the scriptures... allow the scripture to speak to your heart
- ✓ ask God to reveal your purpose
- ✓

Principals

1. Time starts when we are born and ends when we die
2. Eternity has neither a beginning nor an ending
3. God, who is eternal, exists outside of time
4. God sees the end from the beginning and sets our course according to His overall purposes
5. God gives every purpose a time that allows it to reach perfection
6. Time is always given for a purpose
7. Time that is not used for its intended purpose is wasted and lost.