



[Ecclesiastes 3:1-8](#)

(1) There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under heaven: (2) a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot, (3) a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build, (4) a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance, (5) a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain, (6) a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away, (7) a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak, (8) a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

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In Ecclesiastes 3, Solomon lists a series of activities, showing that there are times when one should be done and another not done. However, is there ever a time when we should not be holy? Can we at times throw "caution to the wind" and behave any way we desire? Are we allowed to "let our hair down" for short periods in terms of our conduct and witness? Is it allowable to forget for a time our duties to [God](#) and man or our goal of being in the [Kingdom of God](#)? Can we occasionally take a vacation from our labors to become holy and evermore in Christ's image?

These questions touch all of us regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, position, or years in the church. [Holiness](#) must concern us whether we are rich or poor, learned or uneducated, young or old. There is not only no time when one should be unconcerned about holiness, but there is no person, no matter who he or she is, who should be unconcerned about it.

[David](#), in [Psalm 10:4](#), observes a difference between the righteous and wicked: "The wicked in his proud countenance does not [seek God](#); God is in none of his thoughts." We live in a busy and alluring world. Admittedly, there are numerous distractions, each

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (<http://www.theberean.org>) with its attendant pressures, assaulting us from every angle. We must make choices to control the use of our time, and we must never allow God and holiness to slip from the overall highest priority.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Is the Christian Required To Do Works? \(Part Six\)](#)

Related Topics:

[Conduct](#)

[Holiness](#)

[Holiness as Conduct](#)

[Holiness as Mindset](#)

[Holiness, Pursuing](#)

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