

# ECCLESIASTES

**JANUARY 18, 2026**

## **READ**

- Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-22 and consider what lessons the Holy Spirit intends us to learn. Consider reading the passage a second time in another translation (for instance, NIV or NLT) to aid in comprehension.

## **EXAMINE**

- What does the poetry in v.1-8 imply about God's nature and sovereignty?
- What does this poem NOT mean? What are some misinterpretations we should avoid (ex: using "a time to kill" as moral license to murder)?
- What does the Preacher mean when he says that God "put eternity into man's heart" (v.11)?
- In v.18-22, the Preacher addresses the common death shared by humans and animals. How does an understanding of the Fall (Genesis 3) inform our understanding of this passage, of "the irony that we die like cattle because we fancied ourselves as gods"?

## **APPLY**

- What things do you try to control? How can you work on releasing your controlling grip on these things? How does this text lead us to trust God and be comfortable knowing we're not in control of everything?
- What is your reaction to the recognition that your season of life is not permanent? Does that excite or disappoint you?
- How would you describe your current season of life? How have you noticed God being active in it?
- How does the reality of judgment affect the anxieties you have in the present?

## **PRAY**

- Take time to praise God for who He is, confess sins, and/or make requests based on this passage.