

# Ecclesiastes 3

A time to give birth/a time to die



## Kill vs. Murder

- u Two different Hebrew words:
  - u In Exodus 20:13 – The word translated “kill” is רָצַח (*ratzach*) which means “murder.”
  - u Here the word is הָרַג (*harag*) which can be used for legal killing such as capital punishment, self-defense, etc.

## Biblical Reasons to Hate

- u “Hate evil, you who love the LORD” (Ps. 97:10 and Amos 5:15).
- u “every false way” (Ps. 119:104)
- u “A righteous man hates falsehood” (Prov. 13:5).
- u 7 things God hates (Prov. 6:16)
- u God hates divorce (Mal. 2:16).

## Observations from vs. 2-8

- u All are positive and negative (give birth/die, break down/build up, etc.).
- u Some require our cooperation (planting/uprooting).
- u Some are choices that we make (love/hate).
- u All are actions (to be silent/speak).
- u Some are outside our control (birth/death, war/peace).

## Romans 8:28

- u And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

## Scriptures that reveal life after death

- u For believers:
  - u Ecclesiastes 12:7
  - u Job 19:26
  - u John 3:16
  - u II Corinthians 5:6
- u For unbelievers:
  - u II Thessalonians 1:9
  - u Hebrews 9:27

## Lessons

- u God has a plan for our lives—even if we don't fully understand it.
- u God takes every event in our lives (the good, the bad, and the ugly) and makes it beautiful in its time (v.11).

## Lessons

- u God wants us to enjoy our lives now. Life is His gift (3:13, 22).
- u God will judge the righteous and the wicked (3:17).