

## **It's About Time: The Gift of God**

Eccl. 3:1-15

*Hearing God's Song in the Preacher's Story*

**Theme:** We live in an endless cycle and only God controls our moments.

### **Outline:**

- I. The Probabilities of Providence (vv. 1-8)
  - A. The proposition (v. 1)
  - B. The illustration (vv. 2-8)
- II. The Mystery of Providence (vv. 9-11)
- III. The Acceptance of Providence (vv. 12, 13)
  - A. Keep His commandments (vv. 12, 13a)
  - B. Fear God (v. 13b)
- IV. The Permanence of Providence (vv. 14, 15)

### **Shepherding the Sheep:** (What is the NEXT STEP?)

1. This passage, like all passages in Ecclesiastes, "Shows the infinite hole in our hearts that only [an infinite] God can fill through Christ."
2. "God's impact on time is full, permanent and perfect."
3. "[We must] acknowledge man's inability to control the outcome of their lives. Nothing can thwart the sovereignty of God."
4. "This world continuously bombards us with this lie that we can have what we want if we just work hard enough, pay enough and never give up. [Such thinking] completely disregards the fact that we live in a fallen world and there is a sovereign God who ultimately controls it all."
5. "Where you are is where God would have you to be; therefore, accept your lot in life as from the hand of God and enjoy it." "This is wisdom, not the ability to shape your destiny, but the ability to accept it."

Waukesha Bible Church is a family of families seeking to live in **the Storyline of the Bible**. She is determined by design to have a **God-centered, Christ-exalting worship; a Word-centered teaching** focused on personal **discipleship** through intentional and systematic instruction; a **Global-impacting mission** that resolves to be a **church planting church**; and a **Grace-based fellowship** where disciples are invited to live under a **reigning grace** characterized by a **Gospel-driven sanctification** that celebrates a divine **monergism** to the Christian life.