

**Seasonal Goods**  
**Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; John 9:1-5; Romans 8:28-29; Gal.6:9-10**

0.0 Introduction

- 0.1 We are attuned to seasons! – e.g. for weather, clothing & foods, memorials
- 0.2 Seasons of life – e.g. developmental – and in Ecc.3

1.0 The Wisdom of Seasons

- 1.1 Attuned to God’s natural design *in* the world
- 1.2 Attuned to God’s specific intentions *for* our world
- 1.3 Attuned to ways sin has influenced that world
- 1.4 Attuned to how you can be a redemptive presence in it
- 1.5 Time/occasions/seasons of Ecc 3 *blend* these – 14 antitheses x 2 = 28 items

2.0 Seasonal Goods (Ecc.3)

- 2.1 All moments appropriate for some occasion (v.11) – God-given and delicately discerned
- 2.2 Pattern of positive/negative, assembling/disassembling, joyful/painful – *C’est le vie!*
- 2.3 Samples of seasonal goods (vv.2,7,5)
- 2.4 Responses to life likewise: weep/laugh = mourn/dance (v.4)
- 2.5 Everything “beautiful” in its time (v.11c) – what does that mean?

3.0 Jesus and the Seasons

- 3.1 He aligned himself with the Sabbath and Jewish (OT) holidays
- 3.2 He likened farming to watching for opportunities in life & culture
- 3.3 His incarnation (Day of the Lord) was timed seasonally
- 3.4 His return (Day of the Lord) would be as God (alone) chose to time it

4.0 Importance of Seasons for Us Now

- 4.1 Remember last week? (limited happiness in daily joy); Same once again here – see vv.11-13 – for *only God* is eternal, v.14
- 4.2 A world bigger than ourselves – reflected in Memorial Day last week – a time to mourn
- 4.3 It’s good that suffering is temporary (John Wenham) = Ps.30:5 (joy in morning)
- 4.4 He made us for *joy* (Ps.71:23)
- 4.5 He made us to *serve*: so, lay hands on opportunities to do this (Gal.6:9-10)

*Next week (June 13) – Things Beautiful and Eternal - Ecc.3:9-15*