

Our View from Here

Ecclesiastes 3:9-22

- I. **BEAUTY** (11a, 14)—not just “pretty,” but perfect, good, complete
 - A. **God Has Made** (Ps 118:23)—*designed and decreed*
 1. **With Purpose** (Rom 8:18)
 2. **Through Process** (Rom 8:28)
 3. **With Perseverance** (Ps 138:8; Isa 42:4; Phil 1:6)
 - B. **Everything** (Pr 16:4; Jn 1:3; Col 1:16)—*all things*
 - C. **In Its Time** (Rom 5:6-8)—*known to God but not to us*
 1. **In the Proper Season**—scheduled and appropriate
 2. **According to Individual Design**
- II. **ETERNITY** (11b; 18-21)
 - A. **In Our Hearts** (Rom 6:23; Ps 90:10)—*not in our bodies*
 1. **An Awareness of More**—we have a desire for transcendence
 2. **A Sense of Frustration**
 - a. **Dust to Dust** (Gen 3:19)
 - b. **Like the Animals** (18-21; Ps 73:21-22)—humbling
 - B. **Beyond Our View** (1 Cor 2:9)—*can't see the whole picture*
 1. **Our Time** (Isa 41:4 & 48:12; Rev 1:8)—*We are mortal*
 2. **Our Place** (Isa 55:8-9)—*under the sun, within this sphere*

III. **JUSTICE** (16-17)

A. **Human Corruption** (Rom 3:10, 23)—*all fall short*

B. **Divine Judgment** (Acts 17:31; 1 Cor 4:5; 1 Pet 4:5)—*God knows all things and His judgment is just*

1. **Establishes Significance** (Mat 12:36; Jer 17:10)—everything that we do matters for eternity

2. **Provides Hope** (17; Gen 18:25; Isa 35:4)—ultimately there will be justice

IV. **ENJOYMENT** (12, 13, 22)—we are supposed to enjoy life

A. **Be Joyful.** (Phil 4:4; Ps 104:34)—an attitude

B. **Enjoy God's gifts.** (13, 22; 1 Tim 4:3-4; Jam 1:17)—eating, drinking, work

B. **Enjoy the fruit of your labors.** —*your portion*

“Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time” (1 Cor 4:5).

“What we will be has *not yet been revealed*” (1 John 3:2).

LISTEN TO “Beautiful, Beautiful” (Francesca Battistelli)
<https://youtu.be/JbCfyZHSQbE>