

**Bethany School**  
*Towards a Christian curriculum*  
**Topic Theme - Beginnings**

**CONTEXT** - ECCLESIASTES 3 - Everything has its time.

- all things have a beginning and an end determined and ordered by God.  
cf. JOB 14 v 2 & 5, HEBREWS 9 v 27 also Gen 1 v 1.
- people and all animal life, including the events of life. (v2)
- the seasons are set by God including natural phenomenon, also the nature of plant life and how it should be used. (v2)
- laws of conduct and concepts of justice, reconciliation and mercy.(v 3)
- institutions - and places. (v3)
- emotions - and responses. (v 4)
- relationships, friendships, community. (v 5)
- possessions - discoveries, materials, technologies, systems, ideas, including revelations. (v 6 & 7)
- love, liberty and peace - a response to evil. (v 8)
- all things to be viewed (v 11) " in its time " but with "eternity in their hearts".
- God's work is complete and done that " men should fear before him " (v 14)
- we discover, obtain, make real, the providences of God through our labours, our work.
- the enjoyment of the fruits of our labours is a "gift of God" (v 13).
- we leave what we achieve for future generations (v 22) and God requires an "account" (v 15)

**Our aim is to demonstrate that:**

- God is active in the world.
- all events can be viewed as a demonstration of His activity.
- obedience to the laws and principles in God's word brings blessing and disobedience, ultimately, is folly.
- God is involved in the events of our own lives, we matter to Him and can respond to Him.
- Biblical truth is relevant to all aspects of cultural development.
- by investigating *products, institutions, artifacts and periods in history* where *people, processes, systems or materials* have been given a particular importance for their time we can uncover aspects of the nature of the Sovereign God.
- our actions have eternal consequences .