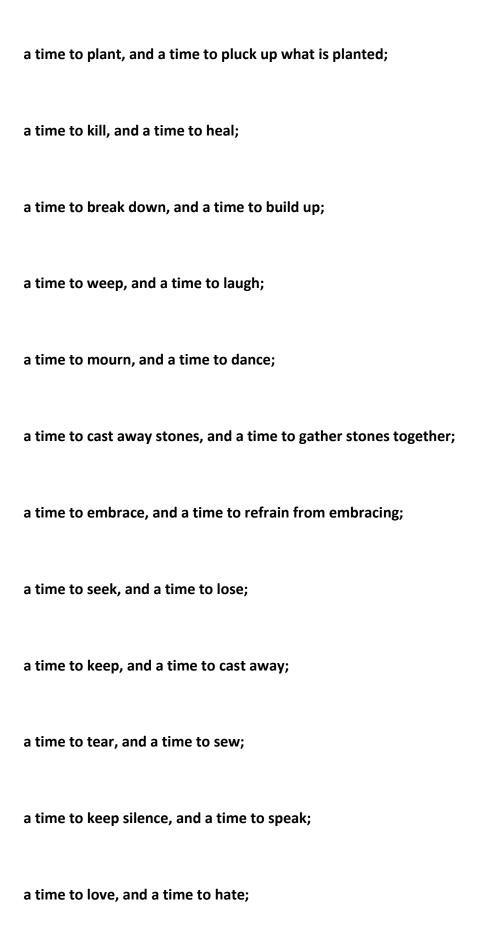
Making Peace with the Past and our Inquiring Minds			
Brian Borgman			
Ecc 3:1-15			
We are incurably curious creatures.			
The desire to know "why" is compounded when we say, "I know things happen for a reason."			
I. God is Sovereign over Time and Events (3:1)			
A. Not instructive or prescriptive			
B. Not fatalism or despair			
C. The sovereignty of God over all things			
II. The Events of Life (3:2-8) The structure of the poem			
a time to be born, and a time to die;			



a time for war, and a time for peace.

III.	Our Inquiring Minds or The Burden to Understand (3:9-1			
	A.	The thematic question:		
	В.	The burden		
		1:13		
	c.	The beauty of providence		
	D.	The consciousness of eternity		
	E.	The burden		
IV.	Coun	sel for the Curious (3:12-15)		
	A.	Rejoice and do good		
	В.	Embrace life as God's gift		

C. What we do know

Conclusion/Application

1.	Gently affirm God's sovereignty without denying human responsibility
2.	Affirm the "naturalness" of wanting to know
or a "r worsh	ot wrong to want to know something. But when that desire mutates into a demand need," it takes on a life of its own, sucking up time and attention, undermining the ip and love that a Christ-follower should have in his daily life." Matthew C Mitchell 8:1 (2014) 66-75
3.	Warn of the danger of "demanding" to know
its grip that m omnis great	nis "need to know" has been ruling me—more than I'd like to admit. When I'm in o, it serves as a god-replacement for me—the most important thing in my life at noment. It's also a way that I try to play god. I'm trying to pretend that I'm cient—or at least growing into it. That's ridiculous. Only God is God. He goes to lengths to reassure me and calm my anxious heart (more on that below), but he let anything else take his place—including a juicy piece of information." Matthew shell

4.	Point to the God whom we can trust	, without having to know '	'why"
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"I will not demand that God explain himself to me at any time, for this is characteristic of the unregenerate man. I must be willing to let God be unreasonable, in my view, if necessary, because he is not concerned with my understanding, but with my faith. The unregenerate man sees contradiction in the world and demands that God justify himself before him; the believing man makes no such demand, but believers God supremely" W. Glyn Evans (Quoted in Jim Andrews, Polishing God's Monuments, 50-51).

"My greatest need is not to know information; it is to know a person - Jesus." Matthew C Mitchell

Psa 131