

Reading Ecclesiastes

Vanity of Vanities?

Smoky Hill church of Christ

FALL
2023

3. A TIME FOR ALL THINGS (3.1-15)

WISDOM PROVIDES

INSIGHT

Planti Corner | 2020

“A time for all things” (3.1–8)

THE POEM ITSELF

PRESCRIPTIVE? DESCRIPTIVE?

WHY IS THERE A TIME?





What Gain has the Worker for his Toil?

THE QUESTION

Ecccl 1.3; 2.11

AN ANSWER

But what is it?

I've seen the task...

ECCLESIASTES 3.10-11

WHAT IS THE **TASK**?

1.13; 2.23, 26; 3.10; 4.8; 5.3, 14; 8.16

CHILDREN OF **ADAM**?

Genesis 2-3

OCCUPIED HOW?

1.13; 3.10 [[5.20]]

BEAUTY & ETERNITY?

What's changed?



“We feel like aliens in the world of time and yearn to be part of eternity. We feel the need for ourselves and our work to be eternal, and yet are grieved to be trapped in time. We also desire to understand our place in the universe against the backdrop of eternity”

-GARRETT

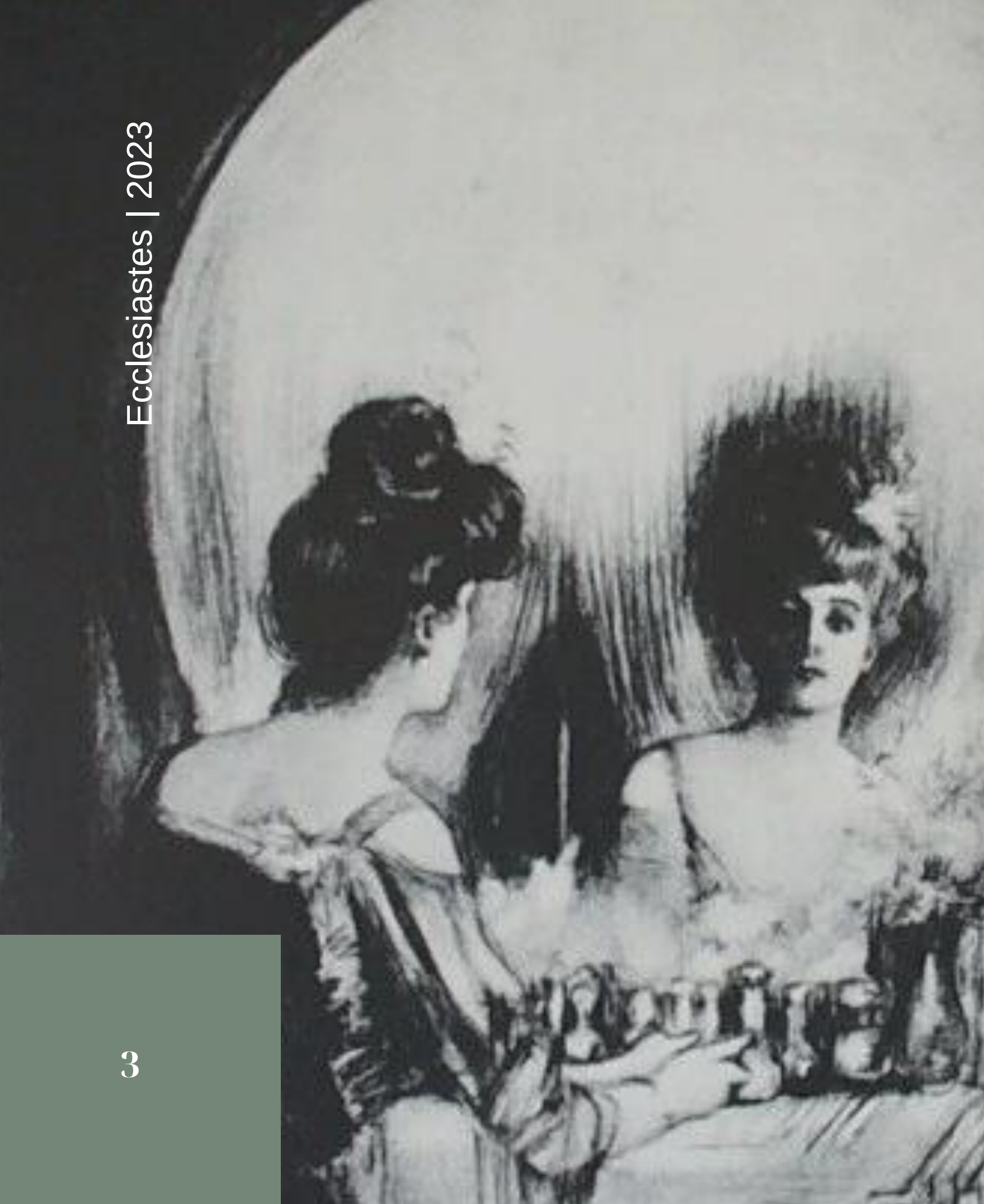
ECCLESIASTES 3.12-15

There's nothing better...

3

VANITY OF VANITIES?





faith & sight

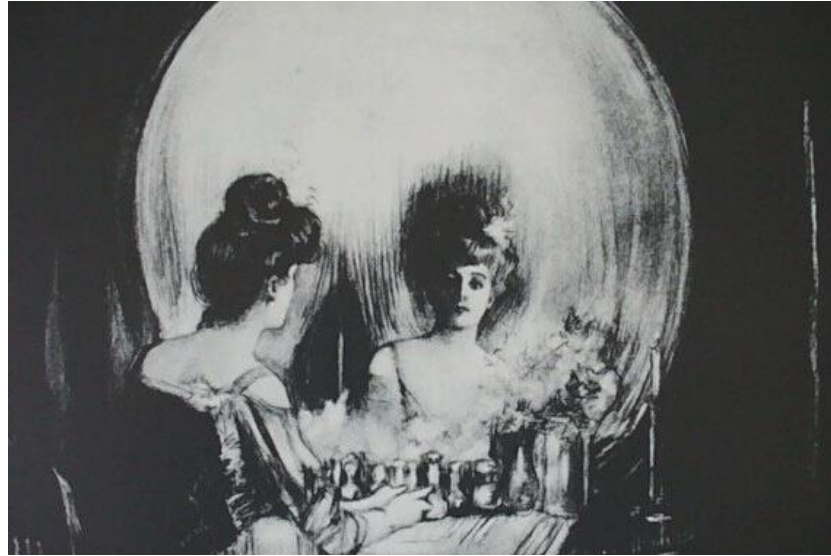
WISDOM IN ECCLESIASTES

EXPERIENCE

“I have seen...”

FAITH

“I know...”



READ

Ecclesiastes 3.16–4.16



QUESTIONS

What does the author think is the difference between humans and animals, especially after death?

What problems do injustice bring on life?

What does the author think about the value (and limitations!) of hard work (compare Prv 6.6–11; 24.30–34)?



Next Class

4. FOR WHOM AM I TOILING?