

## **Topic: Studies in Ecclesiastes: Divine Providence in Labour**

Scripture text: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4:3

17 July 2016: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

1. The Bible teaches us the sovereignty of God and all things are ordained by God. God determines the state of every man according to His divine providence. Eccl chapter 3 tells us all occurrences and happenings in a person's life is appointed by God.
2. The season and time of a man's life whether in birth or death, in getting or losing, are all appointed by God. There is no accident or chance in it. This applies to any ministry for the Lord as He opens or closes any door of service according to His divine will.
3. A wrong response and wrong understanding to this truth is to tell ourselves there is no need to work and do anything since God has pre-determined everything in our lives. Everything will fall in its place. We will then be lazy and slothful.
4. The right response that the Lord wants from us is to acknowledge God's divine providence in labour and work hard and commit all our labours to the Lord. As we commit ourselves to the Lord and to do good works to glorify the Lord, we will be thankful whatever God gives to us and thank Him for our lot in life whether we have more or have less.
5. In this world we will see injustice where the wicked seems to prosper and the righteous is oppressed. We need not fret as it is in God's permissive will now. One day, we know that God will judge and defend His people and righteousness will prevail.