

## Chapter 03

*Contrarie things succede in their feafons, and paffe away, 9. wherof man getteth no perfect knowlege, how long foeuer he liueth, and laboreth to know them: 16. neither wil there be equitie where it ought to be in this world: 21. but in the next, good and euil shal be feparated, and iudged according to their desertes.*

**A**l things haue a time, and in their fpaces al thinges paffe vnder <sup>a)</sup>heauen. <sup>2</sup> A time to be borne, & a time to dye. A time to plant, & a time to pluck vp that which was planted. <sup>3</sup> A time to kil, and a time to heale. A time to deftroi, and a time to builde.

<sup>4</sup> A time to wepe, & a time to laugh. A time to mourne, and a time to dance.

<sup>5</sup> A time to difperfe ftones, and a time to gather.

A time to embrace, and a time to be farre from embracings.

<sup>6</sup> A time to gette, and a time to lofe.

A time to kepe, and a time to caft away.

<sup>7</sup> A time to rent, and a time to fow together.

A time to kepe filence, & a time to fpeake.

<sup>8</sup> A time of loue, and a time of hatred. A time of warre, and a time of peace. <sup>9</sup> <sup>b)</sup>What hath man more of his labour? <sup>10</sup> I haue fene the affliction, which God hath geuen to the children of men, that they may be diftracted in it. <sup>11</sup> He hath made al thinges good in their time, and hath deliuered the world to their difputation, and that man can not finde the worke, which God hath wrought from the beginning vnto the end. <sup>12</sup> And I haue

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<sup>a</sup> Generation, Corruption, & Alteration perteine only to thinges of this world vnder heauen, often here defcribed by the terme, Vnder the funne. For fpiritual fubftances are not comprehended in time, nor place. *S. Ierom in hunc locum. to. 7.*

<sup>b</sup> Al this fheweth that nothing of this world is perpetual, but to be vfed interchangeably, in due time, place, maner, and order. For diforder maketh confufion.

knowne that there was no better thing then to reioyce, and to do wel in his life. <sup>13</sup> For euerie man, that eateth and drinketh, and feeth good of his labour, this is the gift of God. <sup>14</sup> I haue lerned that al the workes, which God hath made, perfeuere for euer: we can not adde anie thing, nor take away from thofe thinges, which God hath made that he may be feared. <sup>15</sup> That which hath bene made, the fame is permanent: the thinges that shal be, haue already bene: and God reftoreth that which is pafte. <sup>16</sup> I faw vnder the funne in the place of iudgement impietie, and in the place of iuftice iniquitie. <sup>17</sup> And I fayde in my hart: The iuft and the impious God wil iudge, and then shal be the time of euerie thing. <sup>18</sup> I fayd in my hart of the children of men, that God would proue them, and shew them to be like beaftes. <sup>19</sup> Therfore there is one death of man, and beaftes, and the condition of both equal: as man dieth, fo they alfo dye: al thinges breath alike, and man hath nothing more then beaft: al thinges are fubiect to vanitie, <sup>20</sup> and al thinges paffe to one place: of earth they were made, and into earth they returne together. <sup>21</sup> Who knoweth if the fpirit of the children of Adam afcend vpward, and if the fpirite of beaftes defcend downward? <sup>22</sup> And I haue found that nothing is better then for a man to reioyce in his worke, and that this is his portion. For who shal bring him, to know the thinges that shal be after him?