

# A Time for Judgment

Ecclesiastes 3:16 – 4:3

I. A time of judgment is needed because of the widespread wickedness in this world.  
(3:16; 4:1)

Martin Luther said he is “not complaining because there is wickedness in the place of justice but because the wickedness in the place of justice cannot be corrected.”

Zechariah listed the people who were most likely to be oppressed: widows, orphans, foreigners, and the poor (Zechariah 7:9–10)

I. A time of judgment is needed because of the widespread wickedness in this world.  
(3:16; 4:1)

II. A time of judgment is coming that will confirm that the universe God created is ultimately just or fair.

*For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil.  
(Eccl. 12:14).*

*For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality (Col 3:25).*

*Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. (2 Tim.4:14-15)*

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right [just] in the eyes of everyone.  
(Rom. 12:17, NIV)*

*Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”*

*(Rom.12:19)*

*God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*

*They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you. (2 Thess.1:6-10)*