



## Ecclesiastes 3:9-11

What gain has the worker from his toil? [10] I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. [11] He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

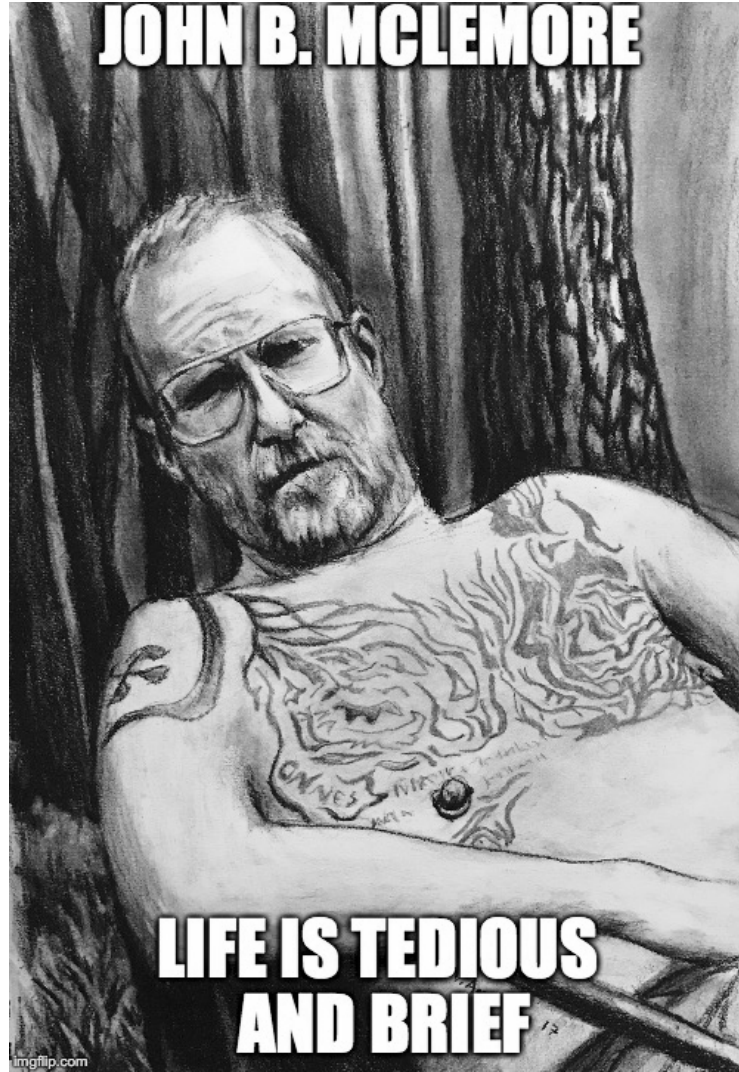
Ecclesiastes 3:9-10

**What gain** has the worker from his **toil**? [10] I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.

Ecclesiastes 2:22-23

What has a man from **all the toil** and striving of heart with which he **toils** beneath the sun? For all his days are **full of sorrow**, and his work is a **vexation**. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

**JOHN B. MCLEMORE**



**LIFE IS TEDIOUS  
AND BRIEF**

[11] He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has **put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out** what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Man has an inborn inquisitiveness and capacity to learn how everything in his experience can be integrated to make a whole. He wants to know how the mundane 'down-stairs' realm of ordinary, day-to-day living fits with the 'up-stairs' realm of the hereafter; how the business of living, eating, working, and enjoying can be made to fit with the call to worship, serve, and love the living God.

– Walter C. Kaiser



Ecclesiastes 7:29

See, this alone I found, that God made  
man upright, **but they have sought out  
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In the fall of mankind, something ghastly happened. The image of God was severely tarnished. Our ability to mirror His holiness has been greatly affected so that now the mirror is fogged. The Fall, however, did not destroy our humanity. Though our ability to reflect God's holiness was lost in the Fall, we are still human.

– R. C. Sproul



Matthew 5:45 For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

Here is the paradox of human existence: it derives from the fact that whereas God is providential Lord over all things, all things have been subjected to "vanity" because of sin. We live in God's world, but it is a world that is fallen and under the curse.

Therefore, the times and seasons and events and experiences and endeavors of mankind are both beautiful and baffling; they are a source of both delight and discouragement; there is joy in what God has ordained for us, but no lasting satisfaction this side of eternity.

– Sam Storms



Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches  
and wisdom and knowledge of God! How  
**unsearchable** are his judgments and how  
**inscrutable** his ways!

Job 11:7 “Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you **find out the limit** of the Almighty?”

Job 37:23 The **Almighty—we cannot find him**; he is great in power; justice and abundant righteousness he will not violate.

Yeah, it's Christmas my dear  
It's the time of year to be with the one you love  
So won't you tell me  
You'll never more roam  
Christmas and New Year  
Will find you home  
There be no more sorrow  
No grief and pain  
And I'll be happy, happy, once again  
*- Please Come Home For Christmas, The Eagles*

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of **God is with man**. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

Revelation 21:4 He **will wipe away every tear** from their eyes, and death shall be **no more**, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain **anymore**, for the former things have **passed away**.”



A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing.

– C. S. Lewis

