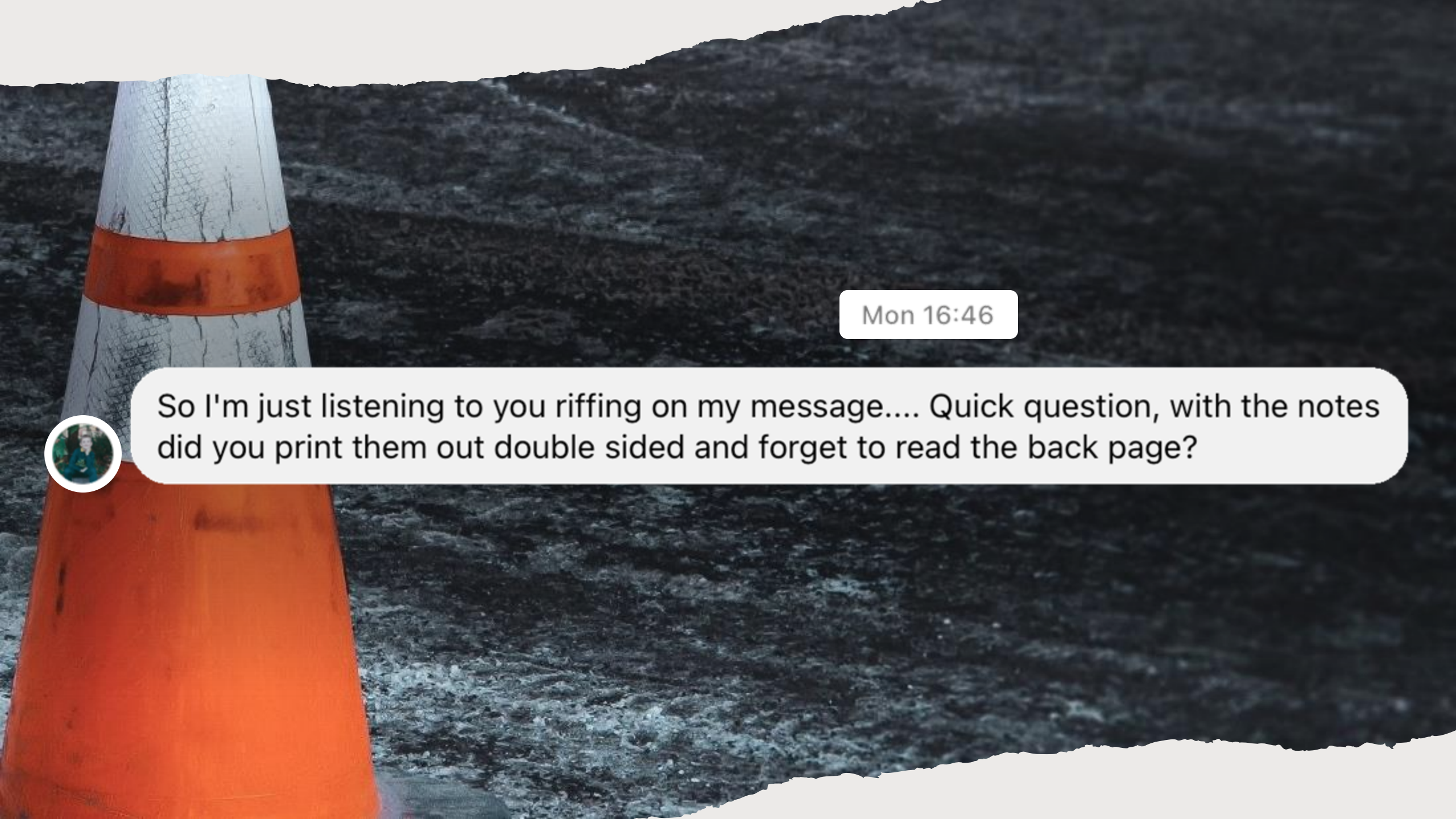
THE PAIN OF TIME

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14




Mon 16:46
So I'm just listening to you riffing on my message.... Quick question, with the notes did you print them out double sided and forget to read the back page?

ECCLESIASTES 1:12-14

12 I, the **Teacher**[a], was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13 I applied my mind to study and
to explore by wisdom all that is done under
the heavens.

What a heavy burden God has laid on
mankind! 14 I have seen all the things that are
done **under the sun**; all of them are
meaningless, a chasing after the wind.



[a] or "Convener", "Collector"; **Qohelet** (HEB)


ECCLESIASTES IS A
VOLATILE TEXT
IT IS A WRITING OF
EXPERIENTIAL PHILOSOPHY

ECCLESIASTES 3:19

19 Surely the fate of human beings is like that
of the animals; the same fate awaits them
both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have
the same breath[c]; humans have no advantage
over animals. Everything is meaningless.



[c] or “spirit”

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

[1] There is a **time** *[zeman]* for everything,

and a **season** *[et]* for every activity
under the heavens:




WHAT IS BEING SAID
THROUGH EACH OF THESE
IMAGES?

2 a time to **be born** and a time to **die**,
a time to **plant** and a time to **uproot**,

3 a time to **kill** and a time to **heal**,
a time to **tear down** and a time to **build**,

4 a time to **weep** and a time to **laugh**,
a time to **mourn** and a time to **dance**,

5 a time to **scatter stones** and a time to **gather them**,
a time to **embrace** and a time to **refrain from embracing**,

6 a time to **search** and a time to **give up**,
a time to **keep** and a time to **throw away**,

7 a time to **tear** and a time to **mend**,
a time to **be silent** and a time to **speak**,

8 a time to **love** and a time to **hate**,
a time for **war** and a time for **peace**.

ECCLESIASTES 3:2-8



2 a time to **be born** and a time to **die**,
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a time to **mourn** and a time to **dance**,

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a time to **be silent** and a time to **speak**,

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a time for **war** and a time for **peace**.

CHIAISM

A
B
C
A
B
C

A = LIFE AND CREATING



2 a time to **be born** and a time to **die**,
a time to **plant** and a time to **uproot**,

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a time for **war** and a time for **peace**.

CHIAISM

A
B
C
A
B
C



B = EXILE AND CONFLICT

2 a time to **be born** and a time to **die**,
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a time for **war** and a time for **peace**.

CHIAISM

A
B
C
A
B
C



C = PAIN AND LOSS


DO YOU REGULARLY PAUSE
TO CONSIDER WHAT
SEASON YOU ARE IN?



MARK 1:35-39

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still
dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off
to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon
and his companions went to look for him, 37
and when they found him, they exclaimed:
"Everyone is looking for you!"

38 Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—
to the nearby villages—so I can preach there
also. **That is why I have come.**" 39 So he
traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in
their synagogues and driving out demons.

ECCLESIASTES 3:9-11

9 What do workers gain from their toil? 10 I
have seen the burden God has laid on the
human race. 11 He has made everything
beautiful in its time. He has also set
eternity in the human heart; yet[a] no one
can fathom what God has done from
beginning to end.



[a] or "also placed ignorance in the human heart, **so that**"



THE PAIN OF TIME

TWO STONES



Everything is
beautiful in its time.

AND



There is eternity in
our hearts.


HOW DO I **NAVIGATE**
TRANSITIONS BETWEEN
CONTRASTING
EXPERIENCES OF TIME?

2 a time to **be born** and a time **to die**,
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3 a time to **kill** and a time to **heal**,
a time to **tear down** and a time to **build**,

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a time to **mourn** and a time to **dance**,

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a time for **war** and a time for **peace**.



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LAMENTS CAN BECOME LABELS.
LEGENDS CAN BECOME LABELS.
BOTH TAKE US AWAY FROM THE GOD OF THE **PRESENT TIME**.

ECCLESIASTES 3:12-13

12 I know that there is nothing better for
people than to be happy and to do good
while they live. 13 That each of them may
eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all
their toil—this is the gift of God.





JAMES 4:13-15

13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or
tomorrow we will go to this or that city,
spend a year there, carry on business and
make money." 14 Why, you do not even know
what will happen tomorrow. What is your
life? You are a mist that appears for a little
while and then vanishes. 15 Instead, you ought
to say, "**If it is the Lord's will**, we will live and
do this or that."