

# CONSIDER YOUR WAYS

## HAGGAI 1:1-8

Text:

Haggai 1:5

Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:7

Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

Introduction:

The work on the Temple has now been ceased for fifteen years, partly because of an order that was issued from the king, but also because of a lack of determination by God's people. Often one's character is revealed not during opposition, but following opposition.

Sadly today many are too ready to give in and give up when things become a challenge.

But we must remember that there will always be challenges especially to those who desire to serve Christ.

Notice

# 1. INAPPROPRIATE CONCERN (1-4)

Haggai 1:1-4

In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, [2] Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. [3] Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, [4] Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

## A. Enemy

1. Infiltration (Ezra 4:2)
2. Frustration (Ezra 4:5)
3. Accusation (Ezra 4:6)

The King demanded the work cease. (Ezra 4:12-22)

## B. Excuses (Haggai 1:2)

The work for the Lord had stopped but the work of the people had flourished. Too often excuses are given as to why it's not time to work for the Lord.

1. We've tried that before and it just didn't work.
2. That's too much to ask.
3. Why should I care, no one else does.
4. Times have changed.
5. I can't do as much or as well as someone else.
6. Maybe a little later. (The people didn't say that they would never rebuild, just not now.)

## **2. INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCES (6, 9-11)**

Haggai 1:6

Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

Haggai 1:9-11

Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. [10]

Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. [11] And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands.

A. Failed efforts (Haggai 1:6)

B. Failed expectations (Haggai 1:9)

### **3. IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION (7-8)**

Haggai 1:5

Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:7-8

Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. [8] Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord.

They were to ponder what they were doing.

Is there ever any profit in giving the Lord a secondary place?

Psalm 37:5

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Isaiah 40:27

Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God?

- A. Consider Gods purpose
- B. Adjust our plans
- C. Give God's preeminence

Col. 1:18

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Close:

What are we seriously doing that has eternal purpose?

Are we building our houses and accumulating wealth for the future.

One day it will all be left behind.

Consider your ways, for its time to work for Christ.