

CHURCH ON THE RISE

Lesson Three • Haggai 2:10-19

The Blessing Of Obedience

Have You Ever Wondered...

If obeying and serving God is really worth it?

The Blessing of Obedience:

1. The Problem: SIN Contaminates Everything We Do for God!

Two Contrasting Questions:

- Is holiness contagious? NO.

"If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and with the edge he touches bread or stew, wine or oil, or any food, will it become holy?" Then the priests answered and said, "No." Haggai 2:12

- Is uncleanness contagious? YES.

"If one who is unclean because of a dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?" So the priests answered and said, "It shall be unclean." Haggai 2:13

The Important Lesson:

You can't catch HOLINESS, but SIN is extremely contagious.

What does this mean?

When your HEART is sinful, then your work for God and worship of God will be unclean, and therefore unacceptable to God.

"So is this people, and so is this nation before Me," says the Lord, "and so is every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean." Haggai 2:14

2. The Solution: EXAMINE Your Life Carefully in the Light of God's Word!

Carefully Consider...

- God's reminder about the past: sin brings God's DISCIPLINE.

"And now carefully consider from this day forward: from before the stone was laid upon stone in the temple of the Lord—since those days, when one came to a heap of twenty ephahs, there were but ten; when once came to the wine vat to draw out fifty baths from the press, there were but twenty. I struck you with blight and mildew and hail in all the labors of your hands; yet you did not turn to Me," says the Lord. Haggai 2:15-17

How should I respond to God's discipline?

REPENT of your sin.

- God's encouragement about the future: obedience brings God's BLESSING.

"Consider now from this day forward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid—consider it: Is the seed still in the barn? As yet the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not yielded fruit. But I will bless you." Haggai 2:18-19

How should I respond to God's promise?

OBEY with a pure heart.

One Abiding Lesson from Haggai's Third Message:

Check out your heart, and if need be, put first things first from a PURE HEART to receive God's blessing!

"And now carefully consider" "Consider now...consider it" Haggai 2:15, 18

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33