

THE FORTY - SECOND GENERATION

Consider Thy Ways

December 2015

Greetings in the name of Christ
Jesus our Lord!

*“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. Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, It is time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste?”
Haggai 1:2-4.*

We must ask ourselves this question, 'where is His house'? His house is in us, His people.

*“To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory,”
Colossians 1:27.*

Our hope in this life is building His house in ourselves by reading His word, spending time in prayer, and making the necessary changes in our lives to be like Jesus.

“Now therefore thus saith the Lord of Hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; 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 1:5-6.

The Lord, thru Haggai, is telling us to **CONSIDER OUR WAYS**. We must ask ourselves: “Am I giving my all for the Lord? What else should I be doing to build His house in me?” The above verse says that he earneth wages, and puts it in a bag with holes in it. Many, many people today work long hours, some are even working 2 jobs and their spouse is working too. But yet, they still don't have enough and they have a lot of debt. Are you filling a bag that has holes in it?

If the devourer is getting all our money, then we must ask ourselves, “Where is the blessing?” We must realize if we are not a blessing to God by building His house, why should He be a blessing to us?

*“Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. 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,”
Haggai 1:7-8.*

Haggai is telling us to go up to the mountain. The mountain is our high place in God. Our mount Zion, our true place of worship. This is where we get our Spiritual materials to build the house.

“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. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. 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 labor of the hands,” Haggai 1:9-11.

If we are not filling ourselves with the Water of the Word, than we are in a drought and we are not being blessed with the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

“And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the Lord hath give him rest, round about from all his enemies; that the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains. And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the Lord is with thee. And it came to pass that night, that the word of the Lord came unto Nathan, saying, Go and tell my

servant David, Thus saith the Lord, shalt thou build me a house for me to dwell in? Where as I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all the places wherein I have walked with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not me a house of cedar?,” 2 Samuel 7:1-7

So many people today go to church with good intentions, to do good, to help others, to be kindhearted; but not very many people go to church expecting or desiring to change themselves. We may have a desire to help others, but not desiring to build our house for God

“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the most out of thine eye; and, behold; a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the most out of thy brother's eye,” Matthew 7:3-5.

We must look inwardly and cast the beam out of our own eyes first. It is then, that we can truly minister to our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Every time we read His word, or go to church, we must have ears to hear and eyes to see what God is desiring to

change in our lives and be open to change and be a doer of His Word.

“But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves,” James 1:22.

“Lord, remember David, and all his afflictions: How he sware unto the Lord, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob; Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed; I will not give sleep to mine eyes, or slumber to mine eyelids, Until I find out a place for the Lord, a habitation for the mighty God of Jacob,” Psalm 132:1-5.

Our whole desire should be to make a habitation for God in us.

“For thus saith the high and loft One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the heart of the contrite ones,” Isaiah 57:15.

He will dwell in a people who have a contrite and humble spirit. We must humble ourselves to be worthy of His presence in our lives.

“For I have no man like-minded, who will naturally care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's,” Philippians 2:20-21.

We all have our own agenda in our everyday lives, but how many are seeking God's will in their lives, or how many are striving to become the Word, where everything we do or say comes from the Word?

“Then said Haggai, if one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean. Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the Lord; and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean. And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord; Since those days were, when one came to a heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty. I smote you with blasting and with mildew, and with hail in all the labors of your hands: yet ye turned not to Me, saith the Lord,” Haggai 2:13-17.

All the judgments God has put on this nation, yet they will not turn to Him. All the blessings God takes from our lives, and brings the curses (drought, famine, flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes, loss of jobs, fire, etc...) and we still don't build His house.

“And he said, A certain man had two sons: and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of good that falleth to me. And he divided

unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my Father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my Father, and will say unto Him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before Thee, And am no more worthy to be called Thy son: make me as one of Thy hired servants,"
Luke 15:11-19.

If we look at the "father" here in the above Scriptures as our heavenly Father and we are the younger son, what would be the living divided to us? As we spend time with our heavenly Father in prayer, in His word, and with His people we realize that this living is the fruits of the spirit in our lives; love, joy, peace, gentleness, meekness, patience, faith, longsuffering, goodness, temperance, lowliness, and righteousness. These are our inheritance and if we have all of these we will never be hungry. But, if we return to the Father and do His work (by building the house) then we will have enough.

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?", 2 Corinthians 13:5.

We must examine ourselves, our actions, our words, and our way of life. We need to be sure that we are being faithful to His Word. We should be proving ourselves daily and putting Christ in us daily.

"Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? And how do ye see it now? Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of Hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts,"
Haggai 2:5,7-9.

Why will the glory of the latter house be greater than of the former? It is because it is not an earthly building. It is Christ in us. A people whose lives glorify God.

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