

Is It a Time for You to Dwell in Your Paneled Houses?

Haggai 1:1-15

Repatriated Jewish exiles started rebuilding the temple in 536-535 BC, but the work stopped because of opposition

What?

Our redeemed life-story is worship and God's glory

The story of our lives—

Vs. 2—The Lord took issue with the people's excuse

The temple represented **the Lord's presence and favour**

Opposition is never a reason to stop doing the Lord's will, because **the enemy is never going to cooperate**

Vs. 4—God asks the Epic Question

Vss. 5-6 and 9-11—the people were working hard but there was little to show for it, and they were never satisfied

The Lord was **not prospering and blessing them as He had promised to do**, because of their neglect, careless indifference

Vs. 8—God was telling the people to **make it their desire to please Him**

He would take pleasure in it by **the acceptance of the people's sacrifices**

Vs. 12—the people took to heart in faith God's promise to take pleasure in their obedience

Vs. 13—God further promised to be with them

Vs. 14—this promise stirred up the spirits of the leaders and the people with supernatural energy of the will

We see **the will of man cooperating with the Lord's will**

The Big Question—“Is it a time for you to dwell in your paneled houses?”

The Lord **wanted the people to examine their priorities**

They were putting their own business ahead of what the Lord had commanded them to do

This attitude said, “The Lord's presence doesn't matter”

Connection with Jesus—

John 4:21-23, ESV—The hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him

Our bodies and the church are **temples of the Holy Spirit**

So What?

When God's glory is His uppermost passion, **it must be our uppermost passion as well; this is what God intends for us**

Part of this is desiring to **have God's approval and blessing as we head out each day to serve Him**

Every day becomes a kingdom day where we offer every part of our body as a worshipful sacrifice to the Lord

Glorifying God means **making His presence in the church and our lives evident to others**

The last word—Paul

I Corinthians 6:19-20, ESV—Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body

Now What?

Consider whether you have been neglecting glorifying the Lord

Consider how His glory must become your first priority