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Much Love!

Pastor Ed

Title: Full House

Text: Haggai 1-2

Target: *"Atheism is not the biggest threat to Christianity, Apathy is"* Tim Keller

I.A Requirement for Reflection: *"Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?"* (Vs. 1:4)

A. Take Inventory: *"Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways"* (Vs. 1:5)

i. **Misaligned Priorities:** *"sown much, harvested little"* (Vs. 1:6a)

ii. **Misguided Pursuits:** *"you eat, never have enough; you drink, but never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm"* (Vs. 1:6b)

iii. **Misappropriated Profits:** *"And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes"* (Vs. 1:6c)

B. Take Initiative: *"Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways."* (Vs. 1:7))

1. **Respond Accordingly:** *"Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD."* (Vs. 1:8)

2. **Reject Apathy:** *"Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house"* (Vs. 1:9)

II. A Revival of Renewal: *"obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God sent him."* (Vs. 1:12)

A. Worshipped Passionately: *"And the people feared the LORD."* (Vs. 1:12)

B. Believed Courageously: *"I am with you, declares the LORD"* (Vs. 1:13)

C. Surrendered Fully: *"And the LORD stirred up the spirit..."* (Vs. 1:14)

D. Served Willingly: *"worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God"* (Vs. 1:14)

III. Reassure the Remnant *"Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How do you see it now? Is it not as nothing in your eyes?"* (Vs. 2:3)

A. Do not be judgmental: *"so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the people's weeping"* (Ezra 3:13)

B. Do not grow tired: *"Be strong, all you people of the land, declares the LORD. Work, for I am with you, declares the LORD of hosts."* (Vs. 2:4)

C. Do not be afraid: *"My Spirit remains in your midst. Fear Not."* (Vs. 2:5)

D. Do not miss out: *"The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts."* (Vs. 2:9)

E. Do not worry: *"But from this day on I will bless you"* (Vs. 2:19)

Takeaway: When you choose to surrender what God gave you in the first place to steward, our service will never be a sacrifice but our satisfaction.