

The Consequence of Choice

Haggai 1:1-14

Nick Bergquist • November 26, 2017

Our desires are secondary to our delight in the Lord - *Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)*

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

The rationalization of bad choices – *In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest: This is what the LORD Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come for the LORD’s house to be built.’” Then the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai: “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” (Haggai 1:1-4)*

- **Reappraise your priorities.**

The reprimand for bad choices – *Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways.” (Haggai 1:5)*

- **Godly voices direct good decisions.**

The natural rut of bad choices – *“You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.” (Haggai 1:6)*

- **If life is not working, bad decisions may be lingering.**

Remedy for bad choices – *This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the LORD. (Haggai 1:7-8)*

The God-induced rut of bad choices – *“You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?” declares the LORD Almighty. “Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house. Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the oil and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, and on the labor of your hands.” (Haggai 1:9-11)*

- **If God is not priority, then true propriety is not a possibility.**

Repentance from bad choices – *And the people feared the LORD... They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty, their God... (Haggai 1:12b, 14b)*