Sound Advice For Sidetracked Saints

David Banning · Haggai 1:1–2:19 · Series: **Turning to God**

INTRODUCTION

- It's so easy to get sidetracked from our good intentions and grow neglectful of God's important work in our life.
- Haggai was called to motivate a people who had allowed themselves to be sidetracked from important spiritual responsibilities.
- If you want to summarize it real quickly, it is build the temple.

1 Sidetracked by Misplaced Priorities

Haggai 1:1–11; Haggai 1:12

- Haggai seems to suggest that what had kept them all this time sidetracked was a problem of misplaced priorities.
- Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in paneled houses while this house lies desolate?
- Because of my house which lies desolate while each of you runs to his own house.
- That's how you respond to preaching. When God's word is presented to us, we need to hear it. We need to understand it.
- Sometimes we find ourselves in our lives building all kinds of houses. While neglecting the most important house, the spiritual house.
- We're all building something, folks. The question is, what are we building?

2 The Problem of Disappointment

- Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison?
- I think the problem of disappointment is one that affects our efforts to work for God as well today.
- Our strength is not tested at moments of victory. Strength is tested in the depths of disappointment.
- Take courage, declares the Lord, and work, for I am with you.
- In the face of disappointment, we need to remember that God is with us.
- Our contribution may only be part of a greater purpose. The point is we just need to do our part.

3 Sidetracked by Impatience

- The people were discouraged because they had not seen the blessings that they had anticipated when they had renewed their efforts to serve the Lord.
- Yet from this day on, I will bless you.
- The blessing's going to come. You've got to be patient.
- We can't give up when we don't immediately see the results we desire. We've got to keep working patiently at it.

- When we struggle, we must learn to persevere in what is right.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Being right with God, building that spiritual house needs to be our primary concern. Whatever has sidetracked you tonight, you need to get back on course and make your life right with him.**

MY NOTES