



Words of Wisdom

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OBEDIENCE WORKS

Part 1 of 4 Part Series

Ezra 5:1-2 “Then the prophets Haggai and Zechariah,* son of Iddo, began to prophesy to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel. Thereupon Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua, son of Jozadak, began again to build the house of God in Jerusalem, with the prophets of God giving them support.” (NABRE)

There are several examples in the Old Testament of God's work being put off and delayed. In Ezra we find the building of the temple delayed twice and afterwards the workers quit.

The temple was untouched for 16 years. In Haggai, the oppositionists worked in their own houses instead and stalled the building of the temple. It took God's prophets to convict the people by the word of God and they responded immediately.

“How often do I get convicted by God's Word? How do I respond?” Do you respond immediately? Or do you tell God that you will just take care of it later? Jesus wants our obedience without delay (Luke 9:57-62). Through His prophets, God demanded immediate obedience. After hearing His word, Zerubbabel and Joshua “then rose up” (v. 2). They didn't hesitate, they immediately got busy. Garth Brooks, a great Theologian has a song called, “If Tomorrow Never Comes”. In life, we are never sure if tomorrow will ever come. This is why Jesus calls us to do His work TODAY. Today is the day of salvation (Cor. 2). Obedience is immediate. The Word of God informs and instructs. The Spirit of God calls and convicts. Are you listening? Are you obeying? The first aspect of obedience to God's Word is that obedience is immediate.

Gracious Father, please grant me an obedient heart to immediately follow You, In Jesus Name!

SIS. TECHIE RODRIGUEZ

