

## PERSEVERING THROUGH DISCOURAGEMENT

### The Time Is Now – Part 2

January 21, 2018

**Haggai 1:13-14 (NIV)** *“Then Haggai, the Lord’s messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: ‘I am with you,’ declares the Lord. <sup>14</sup> So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God.”*

**Haggai 2:3 (NIV)** *“Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?”*

#### THE CAUSES OF DISCOURAGEMENT

- **Comparisons**

They were comparing their **start**  
with someone else's **finish**.

- **Lack of progress**

**Haggai 2:4 (NIV)** *“ ‘But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”*

#### WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU ARE DISCOURAGED?

- **Be strong**
- **Do the work**.

**2 Corinthians 12:9&10b (NIV)** *“But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup> For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*

Consistently do the **last thing** God told you to do.

Successful people do **consistently**

what normal people do **occasionally**.

**Galatians 6:9 (NIV)** *“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”*

**Haggai 2:4b (NIV)** *“ ‘Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”*

- **Realize God is with you.**

**Haggai 2:6-9 (NIV)** *“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. <sup>7</sup> I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. <sup>8</sup> ‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup> ‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”*

God foreshadows in the OT what He will do in the NT:

God shows physically what He will do **spiritually**.

God shows naturally what He will do **supernaturally**.

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)** *“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.”*

**1 John 4:4 (NIV)** *“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”*

**Philippians 1:6 (NIV)** *“...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*