

Speaker: Herbert Brookes
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Subject: Consider

Reading: Haggai 1:1-11 – Consider your ways – looking back over our lives.

Over and over God is speaking – He desires to have communication with men. “[holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost](#)” (2 Peter 1:21): Men were used to bring the message of God to the people of God. God “[hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son](#)” (Heb 1:2). The Lord Jesus asked, “[Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me](#)”

“[God is love](#)”(1 John 4:16): the greatest demonstration of His love was in giving His Son, the Lord Jesus to go to Calvary.

“[God is light](#)” (1 John 1:5): The lord Jesus said, “[I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life](#)”(John 8:12)

The verses we have read were the word of the Lord. It was not something Haggai dreamed up.

In context the people were being encouraged to build the house of God, they had started but the enemy had come in and work had halted.

Consider where you are at this moment in time.

“[Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been](#)”(Gen 47:9): This was how Jacob summarised his life, he had deceived his father.

In the incident recorded in 2 Samuel 12, David has committed a great evil. Nathan comes and tells him what he has done. David has to acknowledge - “[I have sinned against the Lord](#)” (v.13). In Psalm 51, his confession is recorded in detail: “[I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight](#)” (vv 3,4)

The prodigal son said, “[I have sinned](#)” (Luke 15:18,21)

The root of the problem of every generation is sin. “[by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned](#)”

Between me and God is a barrier, sin. It needs to be forgiven and before sins can be forgiven they need to be confessed.

“[All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God](#)”(Rom 3:23)

Owning up to sin and doing nothing about it will have no result. We need to get back to Christ and

make it right with God. He died on the cross and shed His blood so that sin could be forgiven.

In Luke 18, the tax collector looks back and confesses he has sinned: “[God be merciful to me a sinner](#)” (v.13). He “[went down to his house justified](#)”

Judas Iscariot, after being a supposed disciple for 3 ½ years, betrayed the Lord Jesus with a kiss for silver. After he got the money he confessed, “[I have sinned, I have betrayed innocent blood](#)” but hung himself; he felt the only way out was to take his own life. He was not prepared to make right. If someone is not saved they will go out into a worse end. The right thing to do is to come to Christ.

Reading: Deuteronomy 32:29 – Consider your latter end – looking forward in our lives

“[There is a time to be born and a time to die](#)” (Eccl 3:2)

We need to be ready for that moment when the end comes. For everyone of us the time will come to leave this world, “[What shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel](#)” (1 Peter 4:17).

A man who died without Christ “[Lifted up his eyes in hell being in torment](#)” (Luke 16:23). He is still there tonight 2000 years later.

A man who was saved - “[carried by angels into Abraham's bosom](#)” (Luke 16:22). Almost together in life and they are now poles apart. The response was given: “[between us and you a great gulf fixed](#)” (Luke 16:26). The destinies are sealed for eternity. He wanted the message to be sent to his brethren: “come not to this place of torment” (v. 28)

What about you? Where will you be in Eternity: “[With Christ which is far better](#)” or “[in torments](#)”

Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3 – Consider Him – looking up to the Lord Jesus Christ

There is no need to continue in sin, we can be forgiven if we come and believe and repent. The one who make all the difference is the Lord Jesus Christ. People try to reform society but in general it is getting worse and worse. Christ is the answer to my every need. John announced Him: “[Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world](#)” (John 1:29).

We need to call from our hearts, “[God be merciful to me a sinner](#)” (Luke 18:13)

There is only one who can forgive sins, He has nail prints in His hands where He died for our sins (1 Cor 15:3).

The only way your sin can be forgiven is to come, believe and repent.