The Minor Prophets "The Twelve"

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"Building for God's Glory"

Purpose: To stir up God's remnant people to

build the temple

Message:

Part One: "Consider Your Ways"
• word of indictment; exposes their sin

Part Two: "Take Courage"

• word of encouragement; emphasizes the future

Part One: "Consider Your Ways"

- 1. People's Excuse
 - > Not the right time to build the temple
- 2. Real Issue Exposed
 - ➤ Wrong priorities; preoccupied with their houses to the neglect of God's house
- 3. Consequences of their Neglect

Part One: "Consider Your Ways"

Consequences

- 1. The Result
 - > Perpetual frustration in spite of their hard work, they never had enough
 - "purse with holes" it goes out as soon as it comes in; never able to get ahead

Part One: "Consider Your Ways"

Consequences

- 2. The Source
 - ➤ It was the Lord's doing!
 - · God is in control of weather, crops, income, etc.
 - Why? because of their wrong priorities
 - ➤ His purpose (2:15-17)
 - · Cause them to return to Him; put Him first
 - Loving discipline He frustrates their ways for their ultimate good

Part One: "Consider Your Ways"

Consequences

- 3. The Remedy
 - ➤ Build the temple put the Lord first
 - Our passion and priority for the Lord is best demonstrated when we are doing what He is passionate about
 - > He promises to bless them
 - Irony they failed to see the connection between their frustration and their neglect of the temple

Application

General Principle:

- ➤ If you occupy your life with pursuits lesser than God's glory, you will lead a life of perpetual frustration
 - Understand that this frustration is the Lord's loving discipline
 - Our greatest joy and satisfaction comes when we pursue His glory first

Application

Specific Principles:

- ➤ You will not get ahead by neglecting the Lord's work
- ➤ Put the Lord and His work first and He will bless you