

**THEM THAT HONOR ME**  
How To Have Problems

- I. **If your things are lightly esteemed by God you'll have problems-1Sm2:30-For them that honor me, I will honor, and they that despise me will be lightly esteemed**
- A. To get your things taken care put His things first-Mt6:33
- II. **My stuff first, dishonor, is the foundation upon which problems are built; It's the root to many problems many people are having-Hag1:2-This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built.<sup>4</sup>Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?<sup>5</sup>Now therefore thus says the Lord of hosts; Consider (examine) your ways.<sup>6</sup>Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earns wages earns wages to put it into a bag with holes.<sup>7</sup>...Consider your ways.<sup>8</sup>Go up to the mountain and bring wood and build the house and I will take pleasure in it and I will be glorified (honor)...<sup>9</sup>Ye looked for much, and, lo it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? says the Lord of hosts. Because of my house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.<sup>10</sup>Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.<sup>11</sup>And I called for a drought (desolation) upon the land and upon the mountains and upon the corn and upon the new wine and upon the oil and upon that which the ground bringeth forth and upon men and upon cattle and upon all the labor of the hands.<sup>12</sup>Then Zerubbabel...and Joshua...with all the remnant of the people, obeyed (regard) the voice of the Lord their God...and the people did fear (revere, honor, respect) before the Lord.<sup>13</sup>...I am with you says the Lord.<sup>14</sup>...they came and did work in the house of the Lord...<sup>2:15</sup>Now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord:<sup>16</sup>Since those days were, when one came to an heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty.<sup>17</sup>I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labors of your hands; yet ye turned not to me, says the Lord.<sup>18</sup>Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid, consider it.<sup>19</sup>Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you;<sup>23-TLB</sup>I will take you, O Zerubbabel my servant, and honor you like a signet ring upon my finger; for I have specially chosen you**
- A. Put your stuff first and you set a law in motion that says your stuff won't be taken care of-Mt6:33-They're having problems for this reason-2-5
1. Spiritual laws set by God are in motion-God's not controlling everything, but these laws He set in motion are
  2. You invite problems into your life when His things aren't first-A lot of problems could be avoided by simply putting Him first because while you're doing that He'll keep you out stuff
- B. Consider your ways: Make the connection between your struggle and how your living-Your struggling should tell you something is amiss because God's people should see God take care of them, not struggle-5-7
1. They're struggling and God said consider **your** ways-When you're struggling it could be an attack or it could be **your** ways
  2. They're having problems because their stuff is ahead of God's-9-11
  3. His things aren't first yet they expect blessing; Look for much-Many Christians expect things to go well without honor-Faulty belief-9
- C. God says the answer to your problems is to honor me-My things first-8
1. The answer to their problem was a life adjustment **NOT** prayer-To many people it's, "God fix my problem, but leave my life alone"-8

2. The moment they honored God, He began honoring them (I am with you)-  
Their situation began to shift and honored shifted it-12-14

D. Does it make a difference who's first?-Consider the difference-2:15-19

E. God honored Zerubbabel because He honored God-My servant, chose him

III. **If God is not first in your life, if honor isn't in place, you're not secure-**  
*Pr1:24-Because I have called and ye refused (firm, continuance); I have stretched out (offer) my hand (direction) and no man regarded (attend to with estimation; to value);<sup>25</sup>But ye have set at nought (dismiss) all my counsel and would none of my reproof (correction):<sup>26</sup>I also will laugh at your calamity (oppression, ruin, destroy); I will mock when your fear cometh;<sup>27</sup>When your fear cometh as desolation and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish come upon you.<sup>28</sup>Then shall they call upon me but I will not answer; they shall seek me early but they shall not find me: <sup>29</sup>For that they hated (turn from) knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord (reverence, respect, piety-devotion to honor):<sup>30</sup>They would none of my counsel: they despised (scorn) all my reproof.<sup>31</sup>Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way and be filled with their own devices (purpose).<sup>32</sup>For the turning away of the simple (foolish, naïve, deceive) shall slay them and the prosperity (false security) of fools (foolish confidence, arrogant) shall destroy them.<sup>33</sup>But whoso hearkens (regard) unto me shall dwell safely (refuge, assurance, confident, safe) and shall be quiet from fear of evil.*

A. The only way to be secure in the earth is for God to keep you-Dangerous

B. They refused firmly and continually-Not one time or in ignorance

C. Called on Him because they want out of the trouble, but they still have no honor-They don't want to change, they just want help-Ps91:15

D. Lack of honor, going their own way is the root of their problems-  
Turning away from God's way to their own way slayed them-29-32

E. Many have a false sense of security thinking they are secure when they are not-I'm fine, things are going well, I'm a "good Christian who loves God," and the truth is if He is not first, if honor isn't in place, you are not secure and it's naïve and foolish confidence to think you are

1. Thinking you're okay, when you're okay destroys you

F. Honor secures you-CJ-Those who pay attention to me will live securely, untroubled by fear of misfortune-CEV-But if you listen to me, you will be safe and secure without fear of disaster-MS-First pay attention to me, and then relax. Now you can take it easy-you're in good hands-VO-Those who listen to me now will live under divine protection; they can rest knowing they are out of harm's way