

Pastor Ron Case
10/10/10

“The Coming Glory”

*“...the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
(Colossians 1:27)*

Lamenting Yesterday’s Glory

Ezra

3:10-12 – (10) “And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments came forward with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the directions of David king of Israel. (11) And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, ‘For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.’ And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid. (12) **But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers’ houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy,**”

Nostalgic Nonsense

Ecclesiastes 7:10 – “Say not, ‘**Why were the former days better than these?**’ For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.”

Present Contentment

Haggai 2:2-5 – (2) “Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to all the remnant of the people, and say, (3) ‘**Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How do you see it now? Is it not as nothing in your eyes?**’ (4) Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, declares the LORD. Be strong, O Joshua... the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land, declares the LORD. Work, for I am with you, declares the LORD of hosts, (5) according to the covenant that I made with you when you came out of Egypt. **My Spirit remains in your midst. Fear not.**”

The Glory to be Revealed

Haggai 2:6-9 – (6) “For thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. (7) And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts. (8) The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the LORD of hosts. (9) **The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts.** And in this place I will give peace, declares the LORD of hosts.’”

“...Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.” (Hebrews 3:6 KJV)

The Desire of Jesus

John 17:5, 24 – (5) “And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. (24) **Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory** that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.”

Key Point: The ‘Glory Days’ are not Behind, but Ahead

Response:

(1) Yield to Jesus Today

“that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, **that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.**” (NKJV) (Ephesians 5:26-27)

(2) Look Forward, Not Back

“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.” (Philippians 3:13-15)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Have I assumed that the best days are behind for myself or the church?
(Eccl. 7:10; Zech. 2:7-13; John 16:20-22)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)