

Consider Your Ways
Part 2: Pitfalls on the Path
Haggai 2

The Christian has no right or reason to be discouraged or fearful in the same world where God exists!

Phillip de Courcy

I. Be Mindful of Sorrow

II. Be Mindful of Sin

III. Remember God's Sovereignty

Into the Bible

1. Ezekiel witnesses the exit of the Shekinah glory from the temple as judgment on Judah looms. (Ezekiel 10:18-19) The prophecy of the return of God's glory to the temple is fulfilled when Jesus enters it. How does his arrival fulfill that prophecy? (Hebrews 1:3, John 1:14)

Application

2. Scripture is clear about the corrupting effect of sin and our need to avoid those who practice habitual sin. (Galatians 6:9, 1Corinthians 15:33, 2 Corinthians 6:17-18) But mere avoidance of contact with sinners is not enough to build sanctification into our lives. What is the Bible's counsel on a positive response by us? (Philippians 4:8)

3. There are times in our lives when our prayers are not answered the way we have hoped. Like the Jews viewing the rebuilt temple, our disappointment has more to do with our expectations not being met rather than a failure on God's part. How should we deal with our disappointments? (2 Corinthians 4:17, Philippians 4:19, Romans 8:28, Philippians 4:6-7)

For Families

4. Talk with your children about how trusting God helps us deal with disappointments in life.