

CCC Message Notes
"The Altar & the Temple" - Ezra 3
Pastor Dan Page - 8/5/18

THEME

It's important to embrace both the altar & the temple in that order.

APPLICATION

Keep the meaning & impact of the altar & the temple firmly placed in your life.

FOCUS

Any attempt to do the wrong thing the right way will eventually come to an end that was inevitable from the moment it began. Of course the wrong thing the right way becomes its own insanity. The right thing the right way? That's what this morning's message is all about.

The wellbeing of our relationship with God is the result of knowing & doing that He says needs to be known & done. As we consider what He tells us in Ezra chapter 3, I am confident a very important truth & order will become clear.

Returning, Rebuilding & Restoring Our Lives Requires the ...

1. AWARENESS of GOD & His CALL to HOLINESS.

"Casual Christianity" is an oxymoron. / Ezra 1:1-6ff & 2:20 (Romans 1:7)

2. ALTAR & the TEMPLE.

Both represent key truths concerning establishing & continuing a right relationship with God. / Ezra 3:1-6 & 7-13

3. COMMITMENT to EMBRACE God on HIS TERMS.

Real gladness, joy, freedom & peace are the by-products of being right with God on His terms which flow from His love. / Ezra chapters 4-10

Making It Real Questions

- 1] Are you convinced our relationship with God is anything but casual?
- 2] Can you see the importance of both their place & order in our lives?
- 3] Will you keep letting God lead you in your relationship with Him?

Action Step

Write a paragraph summarizing the second point emphasizing the need to properly acknowledge, balance, experience & express both.