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WOULD YOUR GRANDMA BE HAPPY AT YOUR CHURCH?
Ezra 3:12

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:

In the book of Ezra chapter 3 we find the new temple's foundations laid.

This chapter could be effortlessly outlined like this:

- I. The Determination. (verses 1-9)
- II. The Dedication. (verses 10-13)

It is while the scribe Ezra is dealing (under the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit) with "The Dedication" that a person sees that when this happened there were both TEARS and cheers.

It must be noted that "the ancient men" were not blessed but burdened by the NEW house of worship!

Friend, you and I ought to find out if those who have gray hair are genuinely happy with our houses of worship!

There are three things that grandma is never going to be glad about if they go on down at the church.

I. A MESSAGE THAT IS NOT CONVICTING.

Grandma is never going to be over joyed when the preaching is aimed at her head and not her heart. (Isaiah 58:1) Since older Christians grew up on Billy Sunday type preaching, they are not impressed with Rick Warren type teaching! Preaching on the pages of the Bible is facts and FIRE. (Hebrews 1:7b) A message that is not convicting!

II. A MUSIC THAT IS NOT COMFORTING.

Grandma is never going to be over joyed when the praise is performed to make her wiggle and not worship. (Ephesians 5:19) What a revival the church would have if we simply just put be-bop under church discipline and brought back the hymn book! If Christ didn't have a problem with hymns, why do some churches? (Matthew 26:30) A music that is not comforting!

III. A MANDATE THAT IS NOT CLEAR.

Grandma is never going to be over joyed when the program is directed at her to sign up to knit socks for the homeless and not to stop at the gospel tract rack after the service. (Mark 16:15) Trust me, older saints can feel the chill when soul winning is but on ICE! Back door, side door, and garage door evangelism must never take the place of SCREEN DOOR evangelism! (Acts 20:20) A mandate that is not clear!