



Minor Prophet: Haggai

BUILD the **TEMPLE**



HELPFUL INFO

Haggai: (Festival or Festive)

Date: 520 B.C.

People: 1st wave/stage of the returned remnant.

Background: During the second year of Darius (Persian King). The people returned in 536 B.C. and built the foundation of the temple, but they were commanded to stop (Ezra 1-4). It's 16 years from when they first returned. Time to start building (Ezra 5-6)!

CHAPTER ONE

1-6: The 1st of 4 messages. God speaks to the governor, high priest, and the people. They say it's not time to rebuild the house of the Lord. Is it time to build their own homes? God wants them to **consider** how they have been without food, drink, and appropriate clothing. They continue to lose everything!

CHAPTER ONE

7-11: Again, God wants them to **consider** their ways. Build the house so God may take pleasure and be glorified. Why the trials, no rain, no produce? Because they neglected God's house. It wasn't a coincidence.

12-15: The governor, high priest, and remnant obey God's word. They fear God and He assures them of His presence. The Lord stirs the spirit of all the people and they begin to build the house on the 24th day of the 6th month (3 ½ weeks later).

CHAPTER TWO

1-9: The 2nd of 4 messages. 3 ½ weeks after the work begins, God asks, “Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How do you see it now? Is it now as nothing in your eyes?” (See the reaction 16 years prior in Ezra 3:12-13). They are to be strong and work because God is with them. He had always been with them. God will, “yet once more, in a little while, shake the heavens” which is fulfilled in Hebrews 12:26-28. Build the house, yes, but something much greater is coming (Micah 4:1-2; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-5)

CHAPTER TWO

10-14: The 3rd of 4 messages. This is exactly 3 months after the work starts. Haggai asks the priests 2 questions: Does the garment which holds holy meat (sacrificed to God) make other elements holy by touch? **No.** (Leviticus 6:27). If someone is unclean (by coming in contact with a dead body) and touches anything, does it become unclean? **Yes.** (Numbers 19:22). So it is with the people. Being in God's holy land or being around the alter doesn't make them clean, but everything they touch is tainted. God wants their heart.

CHAPTER TWO

15-19: God wants them to remember what it was like before they laid the foundation (Ezra 3) 16 years ago and how difficult life was without food and drink. God hoped they would return to Him, but they didn't. God tells them from this day forward (24th day of the 9th month) He would bless them.

20-23: The 4th message directed to Zerubbabel on the same day. When God overthrows the nations (6-7), God would make him His signet ring. (Matt. 1:12; Lk. 3:27).

HAGGAI IN **YOUR** LIFE

1:2-4 Many times we do what we want, when we want. What about what God wants when He wants?

1:8-9;2:4 You want the secret to complacency, discouragement, depression, etc.?

Work. For who? **For God.** Motive matters.

2:6-7 Build the house. Build the temple. Take care of it. How's maintenance? How's it holding up?

“The Word of the Lord” Used 26 out of 38 verses.