

# Haggai 1,2

2-13-03

## *“In my Fathers House!”*

### 1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. We are now Post Babylonian exile.
  - 1.1.1. During the exile Daniel & Ezekiel wrote(no minor prophets).
  - 1.1.2. Now we have 3 minor prophets that write after words(Haggai, Zech, & Malachi...which are the only one's in chronological order).
  - 1.1.3. The 1<sup>st</sup> group went back to the land(50,000). [538 bc] Cyrus of Persia issued a decree allowing them to return.
- 1.2. Judah's wings had been clipped in Babylon!
  - 1.2.1. Ps.74:1,10,19 “O God, why have You cast us off forever?... O God, how long will the adversary reproach?... Oh, do not deliver the life of Your turtledove to the wild beast! Do not forget the life of Your poor(afflicted) forever.”
- 1.3. God had always planned to restore his people to their land.
  - 1.3.1. Jer.29:10,11 “For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
- 1.4. When the 1<sup>st</sup> 50,000 returned to Jerusalem, they built the **altar**, offered **sacrifices**, laid the **foundation** for the temple...but then they left it **unfinished** for **15 years!**
  - 1.4.1. Originally they were stopped by their enemies (read Ezra 1-6)
- 1.5. **Book layout:**
  - 1.5.1. Haggai is made up of 4 sermonettes in a period of 4 months.
    - 1.5.1.1. Ch.1 is sermon #1; 2:1-9 is #2; 2:10-19 is #3; 2:20-23 is #4.
- 1.6. **Haggai** – Hag=festival. (Latin/Festus!)
  - 1.6.1. So possibly he was born on one of their festivals?
  - 1.6.2. **His purpose** – to be a cheerleader to get the Temple built!

### 2. **BUILD GODS HOUSE! (Ch.1)**

- 2.1. **Sermon #1** (1:1-15)
- 2.2. **Motivation – Q: What are some ways to motivate someone?**
  - 2.2.1. I remember when Mical was a toddler we could motivate her to eat just about anything if we just added a little **Ranch Dressing** on it.

- 2.2.2. **Haggai** needed to motivate them to get back on the job, & to keep them working...till the job was **finished!**
- 2.3. (2) **The excuse!**
- 2.3.1. Excuses always have some merit to them. - In this case crops would still have to be harvested after the 6<sup>th</sup> month.
- 2.4. (4) Their personal affairs interferes w/Gods business!
- 2.4.1. We might fall into the same trap today. **Is there anything wrong normally with building a home? No!** – But if we, in any way, allow God to become #2...then we have a problem!
- 2.4.2. The **theme** of this book could be to “**Put 1<sup>st</sup> things 1<sup>st</sup>!**”
- 2.4.3. **Paneled Houses** – You might think **wood**, for less expensive houses; & **stone** for more expensive homes.
- 2.4.3.1. But in the hills of Judah, **stones** were cheap & **wood** was a precious commodity!
- 2.5. (5) **Consider** – Haggai’s recipe for **reflection!** (1:5, 7; 2:15, 18)
- 2.6. (6) Are you satisfied? – “***Dissatisfied*** can become the divine doorway to deeper things.”
- 2.7. (9-11) God may allow **bad things** to happen so that we turn from **bad things**.
- 2.7.1. **Q:** What seem to be God’s options with us in aiding us to turn from wicked ways? {chastisement or blessings}
- 2.7.1.1. **Q:** What would you say is the quickest way? (Then is He wrong to use it?)
- 2.7.2. As we were reminded at the couples Valentine dinner, “You never lose when you put God 1<sup>st</sup> in your life!”
- 2.7.3. Play on words in Hebrew:
- 2.7.3.1. **In ruins/Harev(9); Drought/Horev(11).**
- 2.8. (12) 23 days after the 1<sup>st</sup> sermonette they took specific steps to implement God’s message.
- 2.8.1. **Nor prophet saw a faster response to his message than did Haggai!**
- 2.8.2. **Francis de Sales**, “*The test of a preacher is that his congregation goes away saying, not “what a lovely sermon!” but, “I will do something!”*”
- 2.8.3. He is also known as “the prophet that said it w/**bricks!**”

### 3. **COMING GLORY IN GODS HOUSE! (Ch.2)**

#### 3.1. **Sermon #2** (2:1-9)

- 3.2. (1) Last day of the “Feast of Tab.”...a Jewish Thanksgiving of sorts.
- 3.3. (3) Only those over 70 could remember the glory of the former temple.
  - 3.3.1. Ezra 3:8-13 talks about the **younger** rejoicing & the **older** weeping.
  - 3.3.2. Here he addresses the older that remember.

#### 3.4. **Temples:**

- 3.4.1. **Solomons** – David’s Heart to build God a home. Destroyed by Neb.(586bc)at destruction of Jer.
- 3.4.2. **Zerubbabels** – Completed & dedicated(516bc). Desecrated in 169bc by Antiochus Epiphanes.
- 3.4.3. **Herod’s** – Actually a restoration of Zer. Built from 19bc-to nearly complete in ad70. Destroyed then. Since then no phys Temple.
- 3.4.4. **Present Temple** – In the heart of the believer. “**your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you,**”; “**you are the temple of the living God.**”
- 3.4.5. **Temple of Rev. 11** – Will be constructed during the Trib. Desecrated by Anti-Christ. Destroyed at end of trib.
- 3.4.6. **Millennium Temple** –Ezek.40-42 gives the details. The builder the Messiah Himself.
- 3.4.7. **Eternal Temple** – Rev.21:22 No temple in New Jer. because Lord God Almighty & the Lamb are its Temple!
- 3.4.8. (9) So, **His Glory** is **greater** in this one(actually the remodel) **Why?** Because the incarnate one visits it personally!

#### 3.5. **Sermon #3** (2:10-19)

- 3.6. (12-14) A **healthy person** can’t impart health upon a **sick person**. A **holy person** can’t pass on his holiness **to another**. **However**, a sinful person can pass on **their sin!**
  - 3.6.1. “**You can have a muddy glove, but not a glovey mud!**”
  - 3.6.2. The **people’s offerings** were only as **valid** as the **character** of the **offerers!**
  - 3.6.3. Though they were engaged in work in a holy place(temple)that did not of itself make them holy.
- 3.7. (15-19) When **more** turns out to be **less**...we need to “take a look” at *interrogating ourselves!*
  - 3.7.1. Some of you interrogate too far & too much...some never do!

- 3.7.2. **Note:** When **adversity** knocks we can't automatically assume that we are out of sync w/God!...but we may be, & so we examine! (spiritual autopsy's)
- 3.7.3. (16) Here was a **farmer** standing there guessing he'll net 20 measures of grain, only ends up w/10.
  - 3.7.3.1. The person trampling grapes in the wine vat thinks, "I'll get 50 measures",...only winds up w/20.
- 3.7.4. (17) **Gods Jack-hammer!**<sup>1</sup> – Blasting away to get his people's attention!

### 3.8. **Sermon #4** (2:20-23)

- 3.9. The same day as the 3<sup>rd</sup> sermon. [only 4 months all together of prophetic ministry we know of!]
  - 3.9.1. **The theme**... "A whole lot of shaken going on!"
  - 3.9.2. **There was the international shake-up in vs.7.**
  - 3.9.3. And now, not only **earthquakes** but **heaven-quakes!**
- 3.10. (23) **Signet ring!**
  - 3.10.1. **See Jer.22:24** for a contrast.
    - 3.10.1.1. This is Jehoiachin (Zerubbabel's grandfather)
  - 3.10.2. **This was especially made ring worn by the king that served as his official signature on documents.**
    - 3.10.2.1. What a **branding iron** is to our western cattle owners.
  - 3.10.3. For Zerubbabel he was encouraged "you are safe on God's hand!"
    - 3.10.3.1. **I dare you...take the ring off God's finger!**
    - 3.10.3.2. He also had the seal of God's promise to provide **a future Messiah from David's line!**
      - 3.10.3.2.1. **In fact he is in both lineages** because it "Y's" off at his name thus being in both Mary & Josephs family tree!
  - 3.10.4. It speaks then of **ownership** but also your signature represents **who you are!**
    - 3.10.4.1. To use someone else's signature is fraud...unless you are given power of attorney!

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<sup>1</sup> Jim Townsend; The Minor Prophets; pg.68

- 3.10.4.2. **The Power of Attorney** – “...authorizes the named agent to **act on behalf** of the signer in any legal circumstance.”
- 3.10.4.3. “People will give another person power of attorney when they are **ill** or for other reasons are unable to conduct their own affairs, or when they are **absent** from home or business for a long period of time.”<sup>2</sup>
- 3.10.4.4. Jesus said he would be physically absent for a time, but promised to return (Jn. 14). In the meanwhile we are to “**do business on His behalf**” until His return!
- 3.10.4.5. Saints, He has made us also His **signet ring/his seal**...because He chose us also!
- 3.10.4.5.1. Eph. 1:13,14 “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed** with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”
- 3.10.4.6. You are valued; you are God's signature; you are precious to Him!
- 3.10.5. **Hear these promises!** - “I am with you”; “in this place I will give peace”; “from this day I will bless you”; “I have chosen you”.
- 3.10.5.1. These promises remain for **anyone today** who put their priorities in order. (Obed. necessary in the NT?)
- 3.10.5.2. Mt. 6:33 “But **seek first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and **all these things shall be added to you.**”
- 3.10.5.3. Jn. 15:10a “If you **keep** My commandments, you will abide in My love,”
- 3.10.5.4. Jn. 15:14 “You are My friends if you **do** whatever I command you.”
- 3.10.5.5. Putting God 1<sup>st</sup> is here to stay!<sup>3</sup>
- 3.10.6. **Augustus Toplady** (Anglican Hymn Writer 1740-1778; wrote “Rock of Ages”) – In the hymn “**A Debtor to Mercy Alone**”:
- 3.10.7. *My name from the palms of His hands - Eternity will **not erase** Impressed on His heart it remains - In marks of **indelible grace.***

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<sup>2</sup>Encarta® 98 Desk Encyclopedia © & © 1996-97 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

<sup>3</sup> Chuck Swindoll; pg.95