

Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

Haggai: Kingdom Priorities

Introduction and overview:

Haggai is one of the last three prophets of the Old Testament period.

Haggai (along with Zechariah and Malachi) spoke to the returned _____.

Gone was the _____ of the former kingdom and temple. Gone was the vast _____ . All that was left was ...

The message? Right life _____ !

A few warnings:

- 1) We can't underestimate the significance of the _____ to the _____ of the Jews coming back from exile.
- 2) We will misunderstand this book and misapply it if we equate the temple with our contemporary _____.
- 3) Our interpretation and application of Haggai should teach us biblical _____ to live by, not " _____ " to claim.

Haggai 1:1-15 (ESV)

¹In the 2nd year of Darius the king, in the 6th month, on the 1st day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest: ²"Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD." ³Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, ⁴"Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? ⁵Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes. ⁷"Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁸Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD. ⁹You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house. ¹⁰Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. ¹¹And I have called for a drought on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors."

¹²Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him. And the people feared the LORD. ¹³Then Haggai, the messenger of the LORD, spoke to the people with the LORD's message, "I am with you, declares the LORD." ¹⁴And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. And they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, ¹⁵on the 24th day of the month, in the 6th month, in the second year of Darius the king.

Some **temptations** to misplaced priorities:

The _____.

_____ struggles.

_____.

_____.

_____.

_____.

_____.

Gradual _____ towards God and spiritual things.

A few **consequences** of wrong priorities:

Living without the _____ of God.

_____ at things that don't matter.

A _____ life rather than a _____ one.

_____ and _____ over material things.

_____ one day.

My **response** to wrong priorities:

_____.

_____ ...

_____ ...

_____ ...

_____ ...

Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

³³ ... seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Next week: Haggai Part 2 – The Blessings of Obedience