

P.M. OUTLINE
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THE BOOK OF HAGGAI

(Haggai 1:1 – 2:9)

INTRODUCTION

(Haggai 1:1-2) “... the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel ... to Joshua ... This people says, The time has not come, the time that the Lord’s house should be built.”

Written 520 BC, 18 years after the Persian king Cyrus issued a decree allowing thousands of Jews to return to their homeland.

Purpose: Haggai wanted them to see that they had deprived themselves of God’s blessings by allowing the temple building project to lie dormant.

- 1. THE NEED FOR THE WORK: (Haggai 2:3)** “Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?”

Today, God’s house is not brick and mortar: (1 Peter 2:5; Acts 17:24; 1 Cor. 6:19-20)

God’s house today, Christians, stand in need of encouragement: (1 Thess. 4:9-10)

- 2. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WORK: (2:4)** “Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel ... Joshua ... all you people of the land, says the Lord ... “

Our congregation will keep being built up when “all” of us tackle the task.

- 3. (v4) THE WORKERS ARE TO “BE STRONG” ... “FOR I AM WITH YOU ... “**

The strength of Israel was not in their numbers: (Deut. 7:6-8)

We are to (Ephesians 6:10) “be strong in the Lord, and the strength of Him might.”

(Phil. 4:13) “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me”

(1 Cor. 15:10) “I labored abundantly, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me”

- 4. (v4) “AND WORK”**

Haggai called upon “all” the congregation (including leaders), stirred them upward, inspired them of the need, filled them with desire, pointed toward the torn down temple, and called upon them to “work.”

This lesson is to encourage us to keep doing what we are doing, and encourage us to do more when we can, according our talent and opportunity.

CLOSE - Nehemiah, a co-worker of Haggai, encouraged his workers: (Nehemiah 2:20)
“The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore, we His servants will arise and build”