



HAGGAI

CONSIDER YOUR WAYS

Minor Prophets

Biblical order

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Chronological order

Obadiah* (ca. 845 B.C.)

Joel (ca 830 B.C.)

Jonah (790-750 B.C.)

Amos (755 B.C.)

Hosea (750-725 B.C.)

Micah (735-700 B.C.)

Zephaniah (630-625 B.C.)

Nahum (625-612 B.C.)

Habakkuk (625-605 B.C.)

Daniel (605-536 B.C.)

Haggai (520 B.C.)

Zechariah (520-518 B.C.)

Malachi (ca. 440 B.C.)

When was that?

Occasion for the prophecy

586 B.C.: Jerusalem and temple destroyed by Babylonians

539 B.C.: Babylon falls to Persians

Dan. 5

538 B.C.: Return of exiles to rebuild

2 Chron. 36:22-23, Ezra 1:1-4

536 B.C.: First return under Zerubbabel

Isaiah prophesied of return

Is. 44:24-28; 45:1-7

Work ceased on temple after foundation laid

Haggai and Zechariah called to refocus the Jews

520 B.C.: Temple project resumed (Ez. 6:14, 15), completed in five years

Background of Haggai

The prophet

Little is known

Haggai: “festival” or “festive”

Clear role in completing temple

Ezra 5:1, 6:14

Frequently appeals to Jehovah as source

His message

Strong appeal for the people to arise and rebuild the Lord's house

Date

520 B.C.: Second year of Darius (1:1, 2:1, 10, 20)

Context

Ezra 1-6 is especially helpful

Cyrus's decree

“Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, **and rebuild the house of the Lord**, the God of Israel” Ezra 1:3

Work begins on the temple (536 BC, Ezra 3:12 - 13)

“And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid”

”But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid”

Work stops after foundation laid

Initially because of local resistance

But the Israelites don't return to complete the work

God's Message

First: Rebuke for indifference, admonition to rebuild (1:2-15)

The message (2-11)

The people's selfishness and unconcern (2-6)

God's displeasure and command to return to work (7-11)

Response: Work Begun (12-15)

People obeyed (12)

God said, "I am with you" (13)

16 Years Later...



Consider Your Ways

What is my “paneled house?”



God's Message

Second: Consolation to those who remember past; glory of the new (2:1-9)

God would be with builders, so “take courage” (1-5)

Leadership must repent

Lead by care, concern, and action

Temple's future glory (6-9)

Not a physical comparison

Glory of the Lord not dependent on physical goods (Zech. 4:9-10)

"The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house, and his hands will finish *it*. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. 10 "For who has despised the day of small things? But these seven will be glad when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel..."

God's Message

Fourth: Promise of salvation renewed; Zerubbabel exalted (2:20-23)

Overthrow of the nations (20-22)

Messianic hope preserved in Zerubbabel

23, Zech. 4:9; Mt. 1:12; Lk. 3:27

Haggai 2:23 "On that day,' declares the LORD of hosts, 'I will take you, Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, My servant,' declares the LORD, 'and I will make you like a signet *ring*, for I have chosen you,'" declares the LORD of hosts."

Luke 3:27 "the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of **Zerubbabel**, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri,"

The Glory Will Exceed

“Be strong...work...fear not”

Philippians 2:12-13

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, **for it is God who works in you**, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

The Glory Will Exceed

“Be strong...work...fear not”

Ephesians 2:19-22

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the **household of God**, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Christ Jesus** himself being the cornerstone, **in whom** the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a **holy temple in the Lord**. In him you also are being built together into a **dwelling place for God** by the Spirit.”

The Glory Will Exceed

“Be strong...work...fear not”

1 Tim 3:14 -15

“I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the **household of God**, which is the **church of the living God**, a pillar and buttress of the truth.”

From This Day Onward



The Signet Ring



Message of Haggai

Build with and for the Lord

God will provide the glory

Build with clean and holy hands

Look for the King