

(Post-Exilic)

Old Testament Survey : **H A G G A I**

Author: Haggai - His name means “Festive”

Ezra 5:1 & 6:14 mention Haggai. He returned from Babylon with the Remnant under Zerubbabel and lived in Jerusalem. Possibly he was born in Judah prior to 586 B.C. (cf. 2:3) which would make him about 75 at this prophecy.

Date: 520-505. Cyrus’ decree in 538 B.C. allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple. The first turn under Zerubbabel was in 536 B.C. and work on the temple began. (cf. Ezra 4-6). Haggai describes the Samaritan hindrance to the rebuilding. Work stopped in 534 B.C. Spiritual lethargy followed. Haggai & Zechariah urge the people to complete the temple. Events in Haggai are precisely dated:

Haggai 1:1 - September 1, 520 B.C.

Haggai 1:15 - September 24, 520 B.C.

Haggai 2:1 - October 21, 520 B.C.

Haggai 2:10,20 - December 24, 520 B.C.

This resulted in resumption of the work and completion of the temple in 516 B.C.

Biblical Context: Context: Ezra 5:1-6:15

Contemporary: Zechariah. Rule of Zerubbabel

Theme: A Call to Finish Rebuilding the Temple

Outline:

I. A Call to Construct the Temple. 1:1-2:9

A. First Message: Complete the Temple (1:1-15)

B. Second Message: The Temple will be Glorious (2:1-9)

II. A Call to Courage, Cleanliness. 2:10-23

A. Third message: The Blessing of Obedience (2:10-19)

B. Fourth message: God’s Future Blessings (2:20-23)

Detailed Outline

I. A Call to Construct the Temple. 1:1-2:9

A. First Message: Complete the Temple (1:1-15)

1. The Temple is Uncompleted (1-6)

2. The Temple Must Be Completed (7-15)

- B. Second Message: The Temple will be Glorious (2:1-9)
 - 1. This Temple Is Glorious in the Present

- 2. This Temple Will Be Glorious in the Future.

- II. A Call to Courage, Cleanliness. 2:10-23

- A. Third message: The Blessing of Obedience (2:10-19)
 - 1. The Disobedience of the People (10-14)

- 2. Consequences of Disobedience (15-18)

- 3. Promise of Future Blessing (19)

- B. Fourth message: God's Future Blessings (2:20-23)
 - 1. The Future Destruction of the Nations (20-22)

- 2. The Future Recognition of Zerubbabel. (23)

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Teacher Notes

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Detailed Outline

I. A Call to Construct the Temple. 1:1-2:9

A. First Message: Complete the Temple (1:1-15)

1. The Temple is Uncompleted (1-6)

1:1 (NASB) In the second year of Darius the king, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest saying,

*This is Darius I Hystaspes, not Darius the Mede - Danile 5:31. He is the Great Grandnephew
Cyrus the Great. He reigned until 486 B.C.*

The Date is September 1, 520 B.C. - a holy day, time of the new moon and a special burnt offering followed by listening to the prophets

2 “Thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘This people says, “The time has not come, [even] the time for the house of the Lord to be rebuilt. “” 3 Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet saying, 4 “Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses while this house [lies] desolate?” 5 Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts, “Consider your ways! 6 “You have sown much, but harvest little; [you] eat, but [there is] not [enough] to be satisfied; [you] drink, but [there is] not [enough] to become drunk; [you] put on clothing, but no one is warm [enough]; and he who earns, earns wages [to put] into a purse with holes.”

They had built nice homes for themselves, but had neglected the Temple. The Lord had withheld His blessings because of their neglect and wrong priority. He even refers to them as “this people” vs. 2, instead of “my people.” (Paneled vs. 4 indicates nice homes - did they use the Cedar Zerubbabel had purchased for the Temple?)

2. The Temple Must Be Completed (7-15)

7. Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Consider your ways! 8 “Go up to the mountains, bring wood and rebuild the temple, that I may be pleased with it and be glorified,” says the Lord. 9 “[You] look for much, but behold, [it comes] to little; when you bring [it] home, I blow it [away.] Why?” declares the Lord of hosts, “Because of My house which [lies] desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. 10 “Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. 11 “And I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.”

12 Then 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 showed reverence for the Lord. 13 Then Haggai, the messenger of the Lord, spoke by the commission of the Lord to the people saying, “I am with you,” declares the Lord.” 14 So 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, 15 on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month in the second year of Darius the king.

vs. 8 - 3 commands - Go up, bring wood, rebuild. This would please God.

vs. 9-11. Their lack was due to their neglect of the Temple

cf. 12f. The rebuilding was restarted on Sept. 24, 520 B.C. - 23 days after Haggai’s message (planning and preparation) - some 16 years after the work had stopped.

vs. 13 - encouragement - the Lord was with them.

B. Second Message: The Temple will be Glorious (2:1-9)

1. This Temple Is Not Glorious in the Present (1-3)

2:1 On the twenty-first of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet saying, 2 “Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people saying, 3 ‘Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison?’

Those old enough to remember Solomon's temple could see this new Temple would not be as lavish as the first, and that was a potential for discouragement.

2. This Temple Will Be Glorious in the Future (4-9).

4 *'But now take courage, Zerubbabel,' declares the Lord, 'take courage also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land take courage,' declares the Lord, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the Lord of hosts.* 5 *'As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is abiding in your midst; do not fear!'* 6 *"For thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land.* 7 *'And I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations; and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord of hosts.* 8 *'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' declares the Lord of hosts.* 9 *'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts, 'and in this place I shall give peace,' declares the Lord of hosts.* "The Lord deals with the issue directly calling the leaders to "take courage" for the Lord was with them (vs. 4), that he would continue to fulfill the promise he had made to them when they came out of Egypt 9 centuries earlier.

vs. 6-9 are debated whether it refers to Zurbabbel's time or future - There is no record of these events happening at that time - so a future time and temple - matching Revelation / Millennial. cf. Ezek. 43:5).

II. A Call to Courage, Cleanliness. 2:10-23

A. Third message: The Blessing of Obedience (2:10-19)

1. The Disobedience of the People (10-14)

10 *On the twenty-fourth of the ninth [month,] in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Haggai the prophet saying,* 11 *"Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Ask now the priests [for] a ruling: 12 'If a man carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and touches bread with this fold, or cooked food, wine, oil, or any [other] food, will it become holy?' "And the priests answered and said, "No." 13 Then Haggai said, "If one who is unclean from a corpse touches any of these, will [the latter] become unclean?" And the priests answered and said, "It will become unclean." 14 Then Haggai answered and said, "'So is this people. And so is this nation before Me,' declares the Lord, 'and so is every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean.*

Third message - Dec. 24, 520 B.C.

Vs. 10-14 - the principle of contamination. Their previous efforts to worship God were contaminated by their sin.

2. Consequences of Disobedience (15-17)

15 *'But now, do consider from this day onward: before one stone was placed on another in the temple of the Lord, 16 from that time [when] one came to a [grain] heap of twenty [measures,] there would be only ten; and [when] one came to the wine vat to draw fifty measures, there would be [only] twenty.* 17 *'I smote you [and] every work of your hands with blasting wind, mildew, and hail; yet you [did] not [come back] to Me,' declares the Lord.*

Their problems were the result of their sin.

3. Promise of Future Blessing (18-19)

18 *'Do consider from this day onward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth [month]; from the*

day when the temple of the Lord was founded, consider: 19 'Is the seed still in the barn? Even including the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree, it has not borne [fruit.] Yet from this day on I will bless [you.]' "

There would be future blessings for them because of their obedience.

B. Fourth message: God's Future Blessings (2:20-23)

1. The Future Destruction of the Nations (20-22)

20 Then the word of the Lord came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth [day] of the month saying, 21 "Speak to Zerubbabel governor of Judah saying, 'I am going to shake the heavens and the earth. 22 'And I will overthrow the thrones of kingdoms and destroy the power of the kingdoms of the nations; and I will overthrow the chariots and their riders, and the horses and their riders will go down, everyone by the sword of another.'

Fourth sermon occurs on the same day as the third.

A future day would come in which the Lord would overthrow the nations. - This is a prophecy concerning the millennium.

2. The Future Recognition of Zerubbabel. (23)

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.

"My servant" is a Davidic / Messianic title

Signet ring was a symbol of honor, authority and power

Zerubbabel represents the resumption of the Davidic dynasty / Messianic line

His lineage traces to Joseph