

Haggai 1

King James Version (KJV)

(Approx. 410 BC with the 110 year correction of the error in years of kings)

(Haggai means feast or festival – a time to get your house in order)
(Judah is back in Jerusalem, after the captivity to Babylon. Cyrus, king of Persia, allowed them to return to Jerusalem; after Media-Persia defeated Babylon)

(Haggai was the first prophet that God spoke to upon the tribes of Judah and Benjamin's return to Jerusalem. The prophet Zechariah would begin his ministry when Haggai was about half way through this Book)

1 In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, (Zerubbabel = born in confusion <Babel>, but coming out of it; Shealtiel = whom God blesses; Josedech = whom God justifies)

² Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built. (They are busy building their own houses. After being back 15 years, they haven't repaired the temple yet)

(God calls them – "this people", not my people. HE is not happy with what they are doing)

³ Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴ Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? (Their houses are all decked out and fancy; but God's house is still in disrepair)

(ceiled = lined inside with cedar paneling – very luxurious)

⁵ Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. (Consider your ways – is repeated 5 times in this book)

(Consider your ways = your conduct has consequences – think about what you are doing. God freed them from Babylon through Cyrus, and then Darius – kings of Media Persia. Why are they still ignoring the

repair of the temple of God? It is in total disrepair from the damage that the Babylonians did to it)

⁶Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. (Don't serve God, and you won't prosper. They sow a lot of seed but they see small pitiful harvests. They live in poverty and don't have any peace of mind)

⁷Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. (God is trying to wake them up to reality. Please God and He will bless you. That brings peace of mind and true happiness in our lives)

⁸Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. (They have been renegeing on their commitment to repair the temple. It doesn't have to be fancy, like the original was. They just had to fulfill their commitment to rebuild the temple and God will bless them)

(God takes pleasure in blessing the people when they love Him and obey His commandments)

NOTE - (The word glorified, in Hebrew manuscripts, usually ends with an H. This one doesn't. H is the 5th letter, which stands for grace. They won't receive God's grace unless they change their ways)

⁹Ye looked for much, and, lo it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. (They are ignoring God. They took good care of themselves before remembering their commitment to God; therefore He did not bless them)

(Without God's blessings, the world will eat you up. HE is our wall of defense against the evils of this world. Don't leave Him out of your life)

¹⁰Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. (They renegeed on their commitment to rebuild God's temple, so God will not bless their work with His bounty. Their farms won't produce much food) Leviticus-26:19, Deuteronomy-11:13-16

¹¹ And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands. (men = Adam – these are the descendants of Adam and Eve – the Israelites)

(The heathen people <Ish – in the Hebrew> are not mentioned in this verse)

¹² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, 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 did fear before the LORD. (Shealtiel = ask of God) (Josedech = Yah is righteous)

(They finally woke up. They need to get right with God and He will bless them again)

NOTE: (Fear & revere are the same word in the Hebrew. Fear God if you hate Him; revere God if you love Him)

¹³ Then spake Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD. (Repent and God forgives and blesses you. That is His promise to us)

¹⁴ And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, (Finally, they began to do the right thing by God. They had made a commitment to God to rebuild the temple. Now, after 15 years, they are finally getting around to doing it)

¹⁵ In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king. (Darius was king of Medial Persia after Cyrus)

NOTES: (This Book should be a wake up call to us today. We murder our babies in abortion clinics. We have thrown God out of our schools. Most young people mock Christianity because they never learned it)

(We let Muslims into our nation, but we abase Christians who call for moral justice. We have replaced morality with political correctness in government and in schools. Sexual perversion is considered a lifestyle)

(So our prosperity is quickly disappearing. Our country is in insurmountable debt. Our young people struggle to survive. People are turning to socialism out of desperation. We have lost God's blessings upon our country)

(We need to return to God, as a Christian nation. If we do that, God will bless us and our nation again. He makes life easy and happy for those people who choose to love Him and obey His commandments)