

The Book of HAGGAI

“my festival”

Date: 520 BC First of the Post-Exilic prophets. A contemporary of the prophet Zechariah

The prophets Ezekiel and Daniel were prophets in Babylon during the exile.

The historical books of Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther are Post-Babylonian exile

The shortest book in the Old Testament except Obadiah. 2 chapters and 38 verses
26 times in 38 verses “thus says the Lord of Hosts” or “the Lord said”

Jeremiah quotes Micah 3:12 in Jeremiah 26:18 "Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple, Like the bare hills of the forest."

THE RETURN: THE TEMPLE IS GONE. THE WALL IS GONE JERUSALEM IS DESTROYED

539 BC Cyrus the Great defeats Babylon and decrees all the Jews (from everywhere) can go home. Only 50,000 return of the 1,000,000 Jews living in Babylon. They had built homes, businesses, and raised families.

538 BC Zerubbabel returns with a decree from King Cyrus to rebuild Jerusalem
SEE: Ezra 1:1-4

Pre-exilic prophets dated their prophesy according to the kings of Judah or Israel.

Post-exilic prophets dated according to gentile kings.

Exiles from Northern Kingdom (Israel) and Southern Kingdom (Judah) are allowed to return.
They do not regain independence again as a nation until AD 1948.

SEE: Ezra 5:1-2 Haggai and Zechariah were prophets at the same time.

536 BC they laid the foundation of the temple then stopped building when there was opposition
Opposition and problems do not always mean it is not God's will.

DANGER: Absence of opposition and everything going wonderful is not always a sign of God's will and blessing.

SEE: 1 Cor 16:8-9 But I will tarry in Ephesus until Pentecost. 9 For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

520 BC Haggai gets a word from God. They had done nothing on building the temple for 14 years.

SEE: Ezra 6:1-12 The opposition had sent a complaint letter to King Darius.

SEE: Ezra 6:14-16 15 Now the temple was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

516 BC **The temple was finished.**

OVERVIEW OF HAGGAI

1:1 520 BC In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day

The Hebrew calendar is Lunar-

The Gregorian calendar is solar- our Calendar: The sixth month would be September

“the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying:

Zerubbabel “seed of Babylon” the Governor- Born during the exile

High Priest, Joshua

Prophets, Haggai and Zechariah

“Consider your ways” 4 times in Haggai

Stop and think about it!

Five Prophecies/Messages from God

Message 1 1:1-11 September 1, 520 BC A Depressed People Your houses decorated, My house devastated

The work had begun, but they had quit. It was time to get back to work.
1:2 "Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built." "It's not time to build the temple" "We can't afford it."
1:4 Is it time for you to live in nice houses and the temple to lie in ruins?
1:5 & 7 "Consider your ways" That is what has caused your recession
No crops, not enough food, not enough drink, no warm clothes, money in a bag with holes in it.
"Haven't you noticed you are not being satisfied" Matthew 6:33 Put first things first.
1:9 "You brought it home, I blew it away" says the Lord of hosts.

Message 2 1:12-15 September 24, 502 BC A Determined People They feared the Lord, They obeyed the Lord

1:12 The people obey The goal of every preacher.
1 Samuel 15:22 Obedience is better than sacrifice
SEE 1 Thess 2:13
1:13 I am with you, Says the Lord
1:14 The people worked

Message 3 2:1-9 October 21, 502 BC A Discouraged People Former House- Glorious Latter House- Greater

Looking back instead of looking forward.
2:3 Remembering the former glory of the temple. Some were old enough.
People wailing about the former glory
2:4 Be strong, get busy. I am with you today. Don't despise the day of small things.
2:8 The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, says the Lord of hosts.
God called you to do the work, then equipped you.
You get a job driving an ambulance, you don't have to buy the ambulance.
You join the Air Force to be a pilot, they train you, but you don't have to buy the airplane.
Phil 4:19 My God shall supply all your need according to His riches...
2:9 The new temple will be better than the last.

Message 4 2:10-19 December 24, 520 BC A Defiled People Clean doesn't make dirty clean - Dirty makes clean dirty

Ask the priests: 2:10-12 Does unclean become clean by touching the clean?
Unclean food will not become clean- The clean will become unclean!

Haggai does not name the sins of the people.

Matthew 5:23 If you bring your gift to the altar, and someone has something against you...
Holiness is not contagious: If you are around someone with the flu, they won't be healed because you don't have it. You will get the flu.
2:14 Sin in the camp God will not bless your ministry if there is sin.
The big problem in the Christian life is not a blowout, but a gradual leak
2:15-19 You turned away from me and were cursed. 2:19 From this day, I will bless you!

Message 5 2:20-23 December 24, 520 BC A Designated Prince Other thrones overturned - This throne occupied

2:20-22 God will shake the kingdoms and destroy the Gentile kingdoms.
2:23 The Royal throne restored. Zerubbabel, a royal Seal, a signet, Descendant of King David
Matthew 1:6-16 V. 12 The lineage of Joseph through Zerubbabel and Solomon to David and Bathsheba
Luke 3:23-31 V. 27 The lineage of Mary through Zerubbabel and Nathan to David and Bathsheba