

COMMENTARY

HAGGAI

Haggai 1

The people of Judah had returned from their captivity in Babylon and had re-inhabited the land. They had rebuilt the houses and towns. Time had passed since the Persians had allowed them to return and yet they had failed to rebuild the temple.

God spoke through Haggai and informed Zerubbabel, Governor of Judah and Joshua, the High Priest, of the need to rebuild the temple. Even though the people had worked hard on re-establishing their fields and the wealth of the land, they had made little progress. The Lord reveals through Haggai, that the situation would remain that way until the people honored God by restoring the temple.

God then worked through Zerubbabel, Joshua and the remnant of Judah in such a way that they began to work on rebuilding the temple of the Lord their God.

Haggai 2

About a month later, the Lord spoke through Haggai. He compares the glory of the previous temple (had been destroyed over 70 years prior) with the present condition of the temple. God tells them not to be discouraged for He would be with them and that the day would come when He would send the desire of all the nations (speaking of a coming Messiah) and how the glory would fill His House and the peace that would then exist.

Two months later, Haggai speaks again. He refers to the laws and rituals of the Hebrew people to show that righteousness is not contagious, but evil is. As long as the people had been evil, God did not bless their efforts, but now that they were putting Him first, He assured them of His blessing!

God speaks of a coming day when He would disrupt the powers that be and would appoint a ruler from Zerubbabel's line to reign (see Matthew 1:12-- Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecy!!).



STUDY GUIDE

HAGGAI 1

1. What were the people saying? (vs. 2)
2. What question did the Lord ask? (vs. 4)
3. What had they done and what was the result? (vs. 6)
4. What are they told to do? (vs. 8)
5. What had the Lord done because of the neglect of the temple?  
(vs. 11)
6. Who then obeyed the Lord? (vs. 12)
7. What did the Lord stir up and what was the result? (vs. 14)

STUDY GUIDE

HAGGAI 2

1. Whom did God tell to be strong? (vs. 4)
2. What would happen when God would shake the nations? (vs. 7)
3. What would God then grant? (vs. 9)
4. What did the Lord say was defiled? (vs. 14)
5. What would God do from that day on? (vs. 19)
6. What would the Lord do? (vs. 21,22)
7. What would Zerubbabel become as? (vs. 23)