

BELIEVERS THE TEMPLE OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT

The church is a spiritual temple made of “living stones . . . being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5). Not only is the church as a whole or as the local body the dwelling place of God’s presence, but individual believers are also to consider themselves the temple of God’s Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19; cf. 2 Corinthians 6:16, NLT). Our bodies are the shrine, or the sacred place, in which the Spirit not only lives, but is worshiped, revered, and honored. Therefore, how we behave, think and speak, and what we let into the temple through our eyes and ears becomes critically important as well, for every thought, word and deed is in His view. Even though He will never leave us, it is entirely possible to grieve the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4: 30). Instructing the Ephesians to not grieve the Spirit, Paul told them to “get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Ephesians 4:31-32). When we live by the Spirit, we will no longer gratify the desires of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:16).

TAKEAWAY

Discussion Questions:

1. If money and shipping delays weren't an issue and you could remodel your entire home, which room would you prioritize? Why?
2. Skim Ezra 4. Why did the rebuilding of the temple to the Lord cease?
3. Read Haggai 1:1-11. What construction were the people prioritizing?
4. What consequences were the people suffering for their mis-prioritization?
5. Read Haggai 1:12-15. How did the people respond to God’s message?
6. Think about your calendar—pull out your phone and look at it if you need to. What habits or activities fill your days? What does this reveal about your priorities?
7. How do you think that God would re-prioritize your life?
8. When you don't prioritize God in your life, what are some of the consequences you experience?

ANSWERS: a) obeyed; b) confirmation

SERMON SERIES: HAGGAI

Pastor Harry Jones

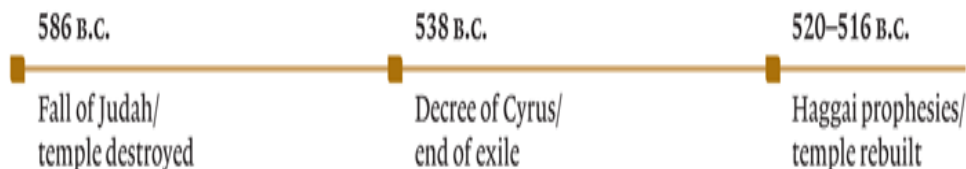
Sunday, September 10, 2023



WEEK 3— Haggai 1:12-15

Outline

- WEEK 1 Introduction: A Promise Fulfilled (Haggai 1:1)
- WEEK 2 Build My Temple (Haggai 1:1-11)
- WEEK 3 God’s People Build The Temple (Haggai 1:12-15)**
- WEEK 4 God Will Glorify His Temple (Haggai 2:1-8)
- WEEK 5 God Will Glorify His People (Haggai 2:10-19)
- WEEK 6 God Will Glorify His Kingdom (Haggai 2:20-23)



The Prophecy of Haggai by time period:

SCRIPTURE	JEWISH CALENDAR	GREGORIAN CALENDAR
Haggai 1:1	2 nd year of Darius the king, in the 6 th month, on the 1 st day	August 520 B.C.
Haggai 2:1	7 th month, on the 21 st day	October 520 B.C.
Haggai 2:10	24 th day of the 9 th month, in the 2 nd year of Darius	December 520 B.C.
Haggai 2:20	24 th day of the 9 th month	December 520 B.C.

Author and Date

The book of Haggai contains messages delivered by the prophet Haggai, and thus it is reasonable to consider Haggai its author. Nothing is known of his genealogy. The specific mention of the "second year of Darius" (**Haggai 1:1**) places the book in the year 520 B.C.

Historical Background

Haggai ministered among the Jews who had returned to Judea after some 70 years of exile in Babylon. The Persian ruler Cyrus the Great captured Babylon in 539 B.C. In 538 he permitted the Jews to return to Jerusalem so that they might rebuild the temple (**Ezra 1-2**). The work of rebuilding stalled, however, when opposition arose (**Ezra 3-4**). Haggai prophesied in an effort to motivate the people to renew their work of temple restoration (**Ezra 5-6**).

Theme

The work of temple restoration highlights the Lord's desire to renew a covenant relationship with his people (**Haggai 1:13; 2:4-5**).

Do you not know
that you are God's temple
and that God's Spirit
dwells in you?

1Corinthians 3:16

a) Construction of the temple; people _____ . (Haggai 1:12)

b) _____ from God. (Haggai 1:13-15)