

The Book of Haggai

II Chronicles 36:17-23

17 Therefore he brought upon them **the king of the Chaldees**, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand.

18 And **all the vessels of the house of God**, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all these he brought to Babylon.

19 And **they burnt the house of God**, and **brake down the wall of Jerusalem**, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof.

20 And them that had escaped from the sword **carried he away to Babylon**; where they were **servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia**:

21 **To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah**, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate **she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years**(_____ years – **They had disobeyed for _____ years**).

22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD spoken by the mouth of **Jeremiah might be accomplished**, the **LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia**, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

23 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, **All the kingdoms of the earth** hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and **he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem**, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? **The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.**

Ezra 1:1-5

1 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, **that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled**, the **Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia**, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and **he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.**

3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the Lord God of Israel, **(he is the God,)** which is in Jerusalem.

4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, **let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.**

5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, **with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the Lord which is in Jerusalem.**

Where this book falls in the History of Israel

- **605 BC - Babylonian Captivity (Jeremiah 6)**
 - ***605 BC -Daniel and the children of royalty taken into captivity**
 - ***597 BC -Ezekiel and the craftsmen taken into captivity**
- **539 BC - Persia's (King **Cyrus**) defeat of Babylon (Daniel 5)**

- **538 BC** - Cyrus decree allowing Israel to return to rebuild (Ezra 1:1-4)
- **537 BC** – The group led by Zerubbabel return to **Israel** (Ezra 1:5-2:70)
- Rejoicing and Weeping over the excitement of the new and the loss of the old Temple at the completion of the foundation (Ezra 3:12-13)
- **536 BC** - The Work **Began** (Ezra 3:8)
- **530 BC** - The Work Stopped (Ezra 4:24) (10-15 year period)

Ezra 4:1-24

1 Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity **build the temple** unto the LORD God of Israel;

2 Then **they came to Zerubbabel**, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, **Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him** since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither.

3 But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, **Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.**

4 Then the people of the land **weakened the hands of the people of Judah**, and troubled them in building,

5 And **hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose**, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

6 And in the reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, **wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.**

21 Give ye now commandment to cause these men to cease, and that this city be not builded, until another commandment shall be given from me.

24 Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

- **520 BC** - The **Preaching** Began (Ezra 5:1)
***Haggai** and Zechariah written
- **520 BC** - The Work Began Again (Ezra 5:2)
- **516** - The Temple Completed (**22** years from Cyrus's decree)

Date Written: **520 BC** (17-18 years after Cyrus's message in II Chronicles 36:23)

Purpose: **Motivate** God's people to build the Temple

To Whom Written: Those who **returned** to Israel

Main Theme: **Rebuke** for not building and a promise if they begin to rebuild again

Key Words: "Build the **House**" (Haggai 1:7)

Key People: Zerubbabal, Joshua the **priest**, everyone who **returned**

Number of Chapters: 2

Number of Verses: **38**

Key Verse:

Haggai 1:3-5

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 **cieled** houses, and **this house** lie waste?

5 Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; **Consider your ways.**

Haggai 1:13 – definition of a prophet

13 Then spake Haggai **the LORD'S messenger** in **the LORD'S message** unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD.

Author: Haggai

Ezra 5:1 Then the prophets, **Haggai the prophet**, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, even unto them.

Ezra 6:14 And the elders of the Jews builded, **and they prospered(were successful) through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet** and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia.

Outline

I. The word of the Lord says... get busy or I won't bless you (Haggai 1)

II. The new Temple will have it's own Glory (Haggai 2:1-9)

III. God Blesses (Haggai 1:10-23)