

INTRODUCTION TO Haggai

READ ALONG

☐ 08/03 Haggai 1-2

WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 34. NAHUM
- 35. HABAKKUK
- 36. ZEPHANIAH
- 37. **HAGGAI**
- 38. ZECHARIAH
- 39. MALACHI
- 40. MATTHEW

KEY THEMES

- **Proper Priorities** – The LORD rebukes the people of Israel because they prioritize their own personal homes over the House of the LORD (1:1-11). In the New Testament, Jesus challenges His disciples to “seek first the kingdom of God” and God will provide for His people (Mat. 6:33).
- **The Folly of Religious Ritualism** – The Israelites believed if they participated in the action of rebuilding the temple, they would be holy and blessed. The LORD reminds them their work is made unholy by their unholy hearts (2:10-19).
- **God’s Presence with His People** – In the Old Testament the temple represented the presence of God with His people. During the time of the prophet Haggai, the temple had been destroyed, yet God promises to be with His people. God is not bound by a building. He is the sovereign Lord over all of creation and He is with His people (1:13, 2:4, Matt. 1:23, 28:20).
- **Messianic Hope** – Twice in this book, Haggai makes a prophecy that directs our attention to a future hope.
 1. Haggai 2:6-9 speaks about a promised glorious temple in which the treasures of all nations come. This reminds us of John’s description of Jesus in the first chapter of his gospel. John writes that Jesus tabernacles or temples among us. Jesus is the promised temple which all nations will come too (John 1:14)
 2. Haggai 2:20-23 speaks of Zerubbabel (a descendant of David). Zerubbabel will be the signet ring of the LORD. This reminds us of the promise that God made to David in 2 Samuel 7:12-13. The LORD has promised to establish David’s throne forever. This prophecy regarding Zerubbabel rekindles the hope of that promise (Matt. 1:1, 1:12-16).

BOOK BASICS



DATE
520 BC



TYPE
Prophecy



AUTHOR
Haggai

No author is recorded, but the messages are attributed to the prophet Haggai. Haggai the prophet is also mentioned in the book of Ezra (Ezra 5:1)

OCCASION

2nd year of the reign of King Darius (520 BC). A remnant of Israelites has returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile. Haggai preaches multiple sermons focused on the temple.

BASIC STRUCTURE

2 CHAPTERS

