

Haggai, God's Motivator
Lesson 18
Haggai 1-2

1. *"The work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a stand still (in 530 B.C.) until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia."* Ezra 4:24. What happened in that year that caused Zerubbabel and the others to return to rebuilding the temple? (Ezra 5:1)

The Prophet Haggai - Haggai 1 & 2

2. During the 2nd year of Darius' reign, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Haggai. Using Haggai 1:1:
 - When did God speak to Haggai?
 - To whom was Haggai to deliver God's message?
3. Where does the Lord say the problem in their construction originates? (Haggai 1:2)
4. Haggai was to confront them directly with a question. What was he to ask them? (Haggai 1:4)
5. Haggai then brought the Lord's message to His people. What were the first words the Lord Almighty said - that became the overriding message of Haggai? (Haggai 1:5)
6. Haggai presented their current condition by giving a list of what they had done; they had planted, eaten, drunk, put on clothing and earned wages; but the results were not what they had hoped for. Little had come in the way of harvest, there was never enough food or water to satisfy or clothing to keep them warm. The wages they earned were so small it was like putting the money into a purse with holes in it. What did he say they needed to do to change the situation? (Haggai 1:7 & 8)

7. What attitude does he want them to give careful thought to? (Haggai 1:9-11)
8. How did Zerubbabel, Joshua and the remnant respond to the Lord's message that Haggai had brought? (Haggai 1:12)
9. The Lord responded to the remnant with another message. What did the Lord say this time? (Haggai 1:13)
10. What affect did the words of the Lord have on the situation? (Haggai 1:14 & 15)
11. One month later, Haggai was sent with another message from the Lord. What was he to ask this time? (Haggai 2:1-3)
12. What additional words of encouragement does the Lord send through Haggai (Haggai 2: 4 & 5)
13. It must have been discouraging for those who had seen the golden splendor of Solomon's Temple to look at the new one made of stone and timber. What promise does the Lord make to this faithful remnant? (Haggai 2:6-9)
14. Two months later, as good progress was being made, the Lord sent Haggai with yet another message. Who was he to ask questions of this time? (Haggai 2:11)
15. He asked them, "*According to God's Law, if one of you is carrying a holy sacrifice in his robes and happens to brush against some bread or stew, wine or oil, or any other kind of food, will it also become holy?*" How did they answer this? (Haggai 2:12)

16. "But what if someone become ceremonially unclean by touching a dead person and then brushes against any of the things mentioned, will it be defiled?" How did they answer this question? (Haggai 2:13)

17. Having received their answers, Haggai proceeded to the Lord's point. "That is how it is with this people and this nation. Everything they do and everything they offer is defiled." What were they to give careful thought to from this day on? (Haggai 2:15-17)

18. What was the second thing they were also to give careful thought? (Haggai 2:18 & 19a)

19. Even though that was their current situation, what promise did the Lord give to them? (Haggai 2:19b)

20. The word of the Lord came to Haggai a second time the same day. Who was this message for and what was the message? (Haggai 2:21-23)

21. Wow! Imagine what it would be like to know how everything would end while you are still in a very difficult situation! How do you think Zerubbabel felt after Haggai delivered this message from the Lord God Almighty?