

## Haggai Chapter 2

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V: 1 Time stamp: 21<sup>st</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month, or a month and 21 days after chapter 1 verse one.

- 1:1 The 6<sup>th</sup> month would have been “**Elul**” corresponding with August / September.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> month would then be “**Tishri**” on the Jewish calendar corresponding with September / October.

1<sup>st</sup> - Roshana / trumpets.

10<sup>th</sup> - Yom Kippur

15<sup>th</sup> - Tabernacles / booths.

- So here we are on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the 7<sup>th</sup> month of Tishri. The last day of the Feast of Tabernacles where they celebrated God’s miraculous provision.
- It was also on the same day many years prior that Solomon dedicated the Temple on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

**1 Kings 8:2** “Therefore all the men of Israel assembled with King Solomon at the feast in the month of Ethanim, which is the seventh month.” (Tishri)

*“The Word of the Lord comes by Haggai...”*

**2 Peter 1:20-21** “<sup>20</sup>Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup>for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”

V: 2 Again Haggai is the messenger, but Zerubbabel & Joshua, and the remnant are the intended recipients.

Previously:

**Haggai 1:14** “So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people: and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts their God.”

- Since God had already stirred up the Spirit of the intended recipients, they were probably very receptive to what the Lord would say through Haggai.

**Psalms 10:17** “LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear.”

**Matthew 5:6** “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”

**V: 3** Who is left that would have seen the previous Temple in it's glory?

- Whoever they are they would have been pretty old at this time given they passed through 70 years of captivity, and they would have been very young when they actually saw the previous temple. They would likely have been in their 80's or so.
- That probably rules Haggai, Zerubbabel, and Joshua out...

**Ezra 3:10, 12-13** “<sup>10</sup>When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel.” - “<sup>12</sup>But many of the priests and Levites and heads of the father's houses, old men who had seen the first temple, wept with a loud voice when the foundation of this temple was laid before their eyes. Yet many shouted aloud for joy, <sup>13</sup>so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people, for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the sound was heard afar off.”

- This is God speaking through Haggai, and He's asking who had seen the glory of the previous Temple? And that what they were now building, this second temple seemed modest or lacking in comparison.
- Between King David's preparations and king Solomon's wealth, they were able to place seemingly unlimited resources into the first Temple, “**exceedingly magnificent**” this second Temple was certainly modest in comparison, yet as we'll see it will have “greater glory.”

**Philippians 3:13-14** “<sup>13</sup>Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

**V: 4** The Lord through Haggai is telling them not to be discouraged - “**be strong**” - do the work and know that “**I am with you, says the LORD of hosts.**”

- He said the sam thing previously in **Haggai 1:13** - which is always encouraging, knowing that we are never alone because God is with us.

**Deuteronomy 31:6, 8** “<sup>6</sup>Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.” - “<sup>8</sup>And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave your nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.”

**Psalm 46:7** “The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.”

**Hebrews 13:5** “Let your conducts be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

- Knowing that our “Papa” is always there, always watching, such a comfort.

V: 5 It seems like it’s been a while since God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt - but that time didn’t negate His promises.

- His Spirit, the same Spirit that brought them out of Egypt is still with them today. God is faithful!

**Deuteronomy 7:9** “Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.”

**2 Timothy 2:13** “If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.”

V: 6-7 Speaking now of the future: a time of tribulation leading to a glorious future where the glory of God fills the Temple.

- **The writer of Hebrews 12** quotes this passage - both describing the shaking of heaven and earth, the sea and dry land - this is comprehensive, a world wide cataclysmic event, not just a localized event as all earthquakes are today.

**Hebrews 12:26-29** [\(Turn to / read\)](#)

- Hebrews and Revelation describe a great earthquake that will shake everything that can be shaken, a time of utter destruction. A time of destruction such as has never been seen before, nor will be seen again.
- God will pour out His wrath upon a Christ rejecting world which leads to it’s destruction and culminates in the return of our Lord to the earth. He then establishes His everlasting kingdom.
- He’s going to shake the very nations of the world, they shall come to “**the Desire of All Nations.**”
- Describing a future time when our Lord Jesus is “the Desire of All Nations.”

**Isaiah 66:23** “And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me, says the LORD.”

V: 8-9 Their estimation was that this latest Temple is not of the same grandeur or glory of the previous Temple, in part for it's lack of gold and silver - but God is saying that all the gold and silver is His to begin with.

- The previous Temple had the Ark of the Covenant and the Shekinah glory of God, there is no mention of that with this 2<sup>nd</sup> temple.
- He can adorn the Temple with gold and silver, but He will adorn it with something far greater - He will adorn it with His son!

**Luke 2:22-32** (Turn to / read)

- At one point when the Philistines had conquered the Israelites and captured the Ark of the Covenant, when the High Priests wicked sons were killed, and Eli, the High Priest himself died - Phineas' widow named their newborn child "Ichabod."

**1 Samuel 4:21** "Then she named the child "Ichabod," saying "The glory has departed from Israel!"

- With the birth of Jesus, the glory has returned to Israel in general, and with His entrance into the Temple, the glory of God has specifically returned to the Temple.
- The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former because Jesus has come to it!

**Hebrews 1:1-3** "1God who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the Word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

- Jesus is the brightness and the glory of God the Father, the express image of His person - when He returns to the Temple, the glory of God has returned and made the temple greater.

*"And in this place (Jerusalem) I will give peace..."*

- Well, that hasn't happened yet - and it won't until the Prince of Peace returns to establish His everlasting Kingdom of peace.

V: 10 Another time stamp: 24<sup>th</sup> day of the 9<sup>th</sup> month, so give or take two months later in the month of "Chislev" which equates to November / December.

- Again the Word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai.

V: 11-12 Question concerning the Law. Can holiness be transferred to something un-holy? The priests say “no.”

- Can someone be saved by association? Can they be saved because their uncle is a Pastor, or because their parents are saved? Do they become holy because they come and take a seat at church? Same answer; “no.”
- They answered correctly according to the Law.

V: 13 Another somewhat rhetorical question; one who is unclean because they’ve touched a dead body, and they touch someone or something else; does it become unclean. According to the Law, yes.

**Numbers 5:2-3** “<sup>2</sup>Command the children of Israel that they put out of the camp every leper, everyone who has a discharge, and whoever becomes defiled by a corpse. <sup>3</sup>You shall put out both male and female; you shall put them outside the camp, that they may not defile their camps in the midst of which I dwell.”

- Then of course there was a protocol for the physical and ritual cleansing, a waiting period, then restoration to being ceremonially clean.
- While defilement can be passed on, but holiness cannot be - it has to be experienced on a personal level through a relationship with Jesus.

V: 14-18 God is bringing them to consider their own state and why things have gone the way they have - the nation, the people are un-clean, they have not yet sanctified themselves to the LORD’s service - they have neglected the LORD.

**Proverbs 14:34** “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

- They are unclean and so is the work of their hands, meaning the temple, and the offerings that they would make, meaning the sacrifices.

V: 15 Carefully consider what you should do? What should they do?

- Before you lay one stone upon another in this Temple - purify yourselves, consecrate yourselves to the Lord.

**Proverbs 15:8** “The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.”

**Romans 8:8** “So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

V: 16-17 Since those days when they first got back to Jerusalem and came to the pile of rubble, they’ve had a hard time, it hasn’t worked out the way they expected.

- You expected to reap twenty ephahs of grain but only got 10.
- You gathered your grapes expecting to get 50 baths out of it, but only got 20.

**Proverbs 3:9-10** “<sup>9</sup>Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; <sup>10</sup>So your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.”

- When you were struck with blight and mildew, and hail you didn't turn to me.
- They had gone back to Jerusalem from Babylon out of religious fervor, but He's looking for true devotion, a living, faith walk, a relationship!
- God is calling them to turn back to Him fully, to have a right heart, then build the temple.

V: 18-19 Consider now from this day - the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the 9<sup>th</sup> month (still the same day), from the day that the foundation was laid - from this point forward - turn fully to God, consecrate yourselves to Him, because He wants to bless you.

**Zechariah 8:9-13** [\(Turn to / read\)](#)

V: 19 From this day forward I will bless you!

**Psalms 84:12** “O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You!”

**Matthew 6:33** “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.”

V: 20-22 The kingdoms of man, the government of man, the times of the Gentile reign. God's gonna overthrow the kingdoms of the Gentiles.

**Ezekiel 38-39** Describes a bunch of Gentiles that attack Israel and are destroyed in the process - possibly the strength of the Gentile kingdoms being destroyed.

[Describing the battle of Armageddon:](#)

**Revelation 19:19** “And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.”

- Again, Gentile kingdoms being destroyed.

V: 23 Another prophecy regarding Zerubbabel.

- This will conclude Haggai's 3 month ministry:

- As we move into Zechariah we see that Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Joshua the high priest are again both prominent figures.
- Zechariah is a chosen vessel he's going to be a witness.
- In Revelation 11 we have the two witnesses:

**Revelation 11:3-6** “<sup>3</sup>And I will give power to My two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. <sup>4</sup>These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. <sup>5</sup>And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. <sup>6</sup>These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.”

- We know the identity of one of those witnesses is Elijah.

**Malachi 4:5** “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.”

**Matthew 17:11** “... Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.”

- Who is the 2<sup>nd</sup> witness? Speculation abounds. Enoch? Moses? Joshua? Zerubbabel?
- It is possible that Zerubbabel would be a candidate to be the other witness, because as it describes the two witnesses in the book of Revelation, it says, these are the two olive trees, referring to the prophecy of Zechariah.
- Zechariah Ch.'s 3 & 4 describe Joshua and Zerubbabel as the two olive trees who's oil flows into the lamp stand of the Lord.

**Zechariah 4:14** “These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the LORD of the whole earth.”

- Zerubbabel is singled out as the signet of the Lord - “<sup>23</sup>for I have chosen you, says the LORD of hosts.”

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## Overview: 4 Messages.

- Chapter 1** (First message / **Get to work**)
1. Stop making excuses. 1-4
  2. Start considering your way. -5
  3. Get to work. 12-14

**Chapter 2** 3 messages / Sanctify Yourselves.

1. Comparison  
Encouragement.  
Be strong - 4  
Fear not, I am with you.
  
2.
  1. The question of defilement - 10-13
  2. The promised blessing - 14-19
  
3.
  1. The coming judgment - 20-22
  2. The promised to Zerubbabel / signet - 23