

THE BOOK OF HAGGAI: RE-BUILDING THE TEMPLE

When the first group of exiles returned to the land of Judah, their first great task was to re-build the temple. Study now about the difficulties they encountered, and what Haggai had to say about them:

A. The Problem Among the Workers: Read Haggai 1:1-2

1. When had the exiles begun to re-build the temple? Ezra 3:8

2. What had caused the work to stop? Ezra 4:1, 4, 8, 17, 21, 24

3. After 15 years, in Haggai's time, what were the people saying? Haggai 1:2b

B. God's Appeal Through Haggai: Read Haggai 1:3-15

1. What question did God ask of the Jews in response to what they were saying? Haggai 1:4

2. What did God call on them to do? Haggai 1:5

3. What had happened to them since they stopped work on the temple? Haggai 1:6

a. when they sowed: _____

b. when they ate and drank: _____

c. when they put on clothes: _____

d. when they earned wages: _____

4. Why had all these things happened to them? Haggai 1:9-11, especially 9b

5. Therefore, what did God call on them to do? Haggai 1:8a

6. what did God say He would do if they would obey Him? Haggai, 1:8b

7. What did the people do as a result of Haggai's first message? Haggai 1:12-15

8. What promise did God give them as a result? Haggai 1:13b

C. God's Encouragement Through Haggai: Read Haggai 2:1-9

1. What did many of the older people do when they saw this temple being built? Ezra 3:12a

2. Why did they do this? Haggai 2:3

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3. Yet, what was God's message to them through Haggai? Haggai 2:4

4. What did God promise to do to this house? Haggai 2:7b, 9

D. God's Rebuke, and Promise Through Haggai: Read Haggai 2:10-19

1. For what did God rebuke the people through Haggai? Haggai 2:14

2. What did He call on the people to do? Haggai 2:15a, 18a

3. What did He promise to do for them in the future? Haggai 2:19b

E. God's Promise of Blessing Through Haggai: Read Haggai 2:20-23

1. To whom was this promise especially directed? Haggai 2:21a

2. What did God promise to do? Haggai 2:22a, 23b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Can I expect God to prosper me, if I care more about my own house and work than I do about His house and His work?

2. What would be God's message to me today concerning His work? See I Corinthians 15:58.
