



**October 8, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell**  
**Haggai 2:1-9 | “A Call to Courage”**

**Sermon Application Review from Haggai 1:1-15**

In what area of your life did you stop procrastinating (1:2)?  
How have you practically sought to please and glorify God (1:8)?  
What “hard thing” did you commit to do?

**Scripture Reading**

Haggai 2:1–23  
Joshua 1:6–9, 18  
Isaiah 59:20–21; 60:4–14  
Revelation 21:3, 22  
Zechariah 14:9–15  
Hebrews 12:25–29  
2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:6–7, 18

**Study Questions**

1. Many Christians are stuck looking in the past at “what was,” instead of looking at the present, “what is,” or to the future, “what will be” (2:1–3). What is the difference between healthy memory and unhealthy nostalgia? When have you caught yourself looking back longingly at the past that no longer exists? In what ways does this help you or hurt you? How have you been guilty of comparing your life, work, and ministry to that of others?
2. Why are so many Christians burning out? Are we too emotionally fragile, or are there other causes? What discourages you most in your service to the Lord? How can you prevent and overcome discouragement? What role should the Lord and others play in helping you overcome disheartening seasons? How can you encourage others facing discouragement?
3. In what ministry are you presently involved? How has this ministry helped your perspective and outlook? Is there such a thing as “too committed” to the Lord’s work, and how can you know if this is an issue for you? Are you balanced in your various roles and responsibilities at work, home, and church? Who do you know that balances these demands well?
4. Why are external comparisons often empty and useless (2:4–9)? What is a biblical definition of “success” in Christian service? How do you know if your ministry is honoring God? Will there always be outward signs of God’s blessing? Are all problems (e.g., health, financial, relational) a part of God’s discipline? If we are seeking to live in obedience, will we be problem-free? Why or why not?
5. How is God telling you to “take courage”? In what ways might you need to step out in faith? What difference would it make if you were constantly aware that God is with you? What do you fear most? How would awareness of God’s abiding Spirit dispel fear in your life?

**Recommended Reading**

Charles R. Swindoll, *Clinging to Hope: What Scripture Says about Weathering Times of Trouble, Chaos, and Calamity* (Tyndale Monument, 2022)  
Kyle Strobel & John Coe, *Where Prayer Becomes Real: How Honesty with God Transforms Your Soul* (Baker, 2021)