

# Haggai helps rebuilding the temple of God

A long time ago, after 70 years of captivity in Babylon, God allowed his children to return home. God wanted them to rebuild His temple and some of them started the work, but their neighbours discouraged them and they stopped rebuilding. A man named Haggai was chosen by God to speak on his behalf about the house of God, the temple.

Actually, the temple of God was destroyed and the people did not have a place where they could come together and worship God. However, since they returned to their land, each of them was busy rebuilding his own house and no one cared about the house of God. What a great mistake it was!

God spoke to them through the prophet Haggai and said, "You live in beautiful houses while my house is in ruins". So for 4 months Haggai prophesied to the people and the king Zerubbabel. He made them to see that it was wrong to neglect to rebuild the temple of God. At last, the people recognized their mistakes and listened to Haggai! They wanted to put God first and rebuild His house! Therefore, they continued the work on rebuilding the temple of God.

As they were working, Zerubbabel and the people were a bit worried and disappointed because they wanted to do something very nice for their God and they did not have so much money to make the temple as beautiful and amazing as it was before. They wanted to do so much but they had so little!

God saw their love and their willingness to do better and told them not to be discouraged. Even if the temple that they would rebuild for Him were not going to be as big and as beautiful as the previous one, it would certainly be stronger and unshakable because God's glorious presence will be in that second temple better than ever before.

God was very pleased that they were building His temple and that they were doing it together, He promised " keep working, I am with you". These words from God gave them courage and strength and they continued to work hard and rebuild the temple of the Lord.

Finally, God gave Haggai another message. He was so pleased with king Zerubbabel and called him His servant. He said He would make Zerubbabel very strong to show the other nations that the God of the Hebrew is all powerful and in control of the whole world.

**Lesson:** when we put God first and trust Him, anything that was destroyed and in ruin on our lives can be rebuild and restored.

**Let us prayer together:** Thank you God because you never give up on me. You are always faithful even when I am not and what I have lost, what I have spoiled and destroyed in my own mistake, you are willing to help rebuild and restore.

In Jesus's Name I pray.

Amen.