

Haggai 1:1-15

2 “Thus says the Lord of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord.” **3** Then the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, **4** “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? **5** Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. **6** You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

“The time will never be right” - you’ll never have enough resources or security or whatever to do what the Lord has called you to do!

Are we making excuses for not doing what the Lord wants us to do?

9 You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the Lord of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house.

The issue is not whether we have a nice house, or nice things, but it’s whether there is a disproportionate amount of time, money, and the energy of our lives spent on those temporary things!

Are we neglecting the Lord and all that He wants to do in our lives?

These verses are speaking about a disproportionate prioritization of the earthly over the eternal - kingdom living.

Verse 6

6 You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

We've sown so much and reaped so little - not being satisfied with the things we give to this world!

What is the Lord's answer to all of this?

Verse 8

8 Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord.

Build it - and see the glory of God!

In the light of His glory - we gain perspective on everything else in our lives!

Pastor Phil's message from Haggai 2

You stopped because you got distracted

Far too many Christians that have known God for 20 years but are acting like they've only known him for 6 months!

Haggai 2:1

Discouragement -

People who had seen the first temple and are now building the second one were using all the scraps to make the foundation. The OG old guys were crying because they said it was not like it's first glory. How discouraging was that to everyone when they said, It's not like it used to be.

“One way to be discouraged in our lives is to compare it with other times, or other people!”

Discouragement is a reality to those who compare!

The problem with the OG guys in Haggai’s day was that they were focused on the Temple’s beauty and function, but not on it’s purpose!!

If you get caught up with form and function, instead of the purpose of the church, you are never going to grow!

We were not saved by Jesus to be stuck in our past but to move forward into what He has for us now!