

MANUSCRIPT STUDY HANDOUT
HAGGAI: BUILDING FOR HIS GLORY (LESSON 2)

LESSON 2: THE POCKETBOOK PROVING GROUND

PASSAGE: HAGGAI 1:2–6

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
	² “Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, saying: ‘This people says, “The time has not come, the time that the LORD’s house should be built.” ’ ” ³ Then the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying, ⁴ “<i>Is it</i> time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this ^[a] temple to lie in ruins?” ⁵ Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: “Consider your ways! ⁶ “You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages <i>to put</i> into a bag with holes.”

THE ANATOMY OF A SPIRITUAL EXCUSE

- * External Pressures —> Samaritan opposition (Ezra 4), bad economy, drought.
- * Internal Heart Issue —> Pride (Gen 3), Martha Trap (Luke 10), Default Idols.
- * Rationalization —> "If it's this hard, it must not be God's timing."
- * Relational Shift —> God switches from "My people" to "THIS people."

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS]

1. THE LANGUAGE OF DISTANCE:

- * Why does God refer to them as "This people" instead of "My people"? How does their busyness with their own houses mirror Martha in Luke 10:38–42?

2. THE "PANELED HOUSES" CONTRAST:

- * Haggai contrasts their "paneled" (luxurious) homes with God's ruined house. How does this show that they worshipped their own comfort (Malachi 1:6–7)?

3. THE LACK OF FLOURISHING:

- * What does the literal Hebrew phrase "Put your heart on your roads" mean? How did their failure to build God's house lead to the "bag with holes"?

=====

PERSONAL REFLECTION & CHURCH APPLICATION

"We rarely speak against the IDEA of building for God—we simply speak against the TIMING. Postponed obedience is rooted in pride and default self-worship."

- * Where in your life, budget, schedule, or energy are you experiencing a lack of flourishing or the "bag with holes" effect because God's work has been pushed to "not right now"?
