

MANUSCRIPT STUDY HANDOUT
HAGGAI: BUILDING FOR HIS GLORY (CHAPTER 1 FINALE)

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LESSON 5: OVERCOMING DISCOURAGEMENT — SMALL BEGINNINGS, SOVEREIGN
PROVISION, & GREATER GLORY
PASSAGE: HAGGAI 2:1–9

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
Date: Oct 17, 520 BC Final day of Tabernacles (1 Kings 8:2 link) Civic, Spiritual, & Remnant [2] addressed together Kā'ayin ("as nothing") Trap of nostalgia & paralyzing comparison Chazaq ("be strong") 3x Imperative rooted in grace ‘Āsāh ("work") Transformed hands Covenant presence LORD. Exodus anchor Abiding Ruach (Spirit) Holy Spirit among them Pushes out fear	1 In the seventh <i>month</i>, on the twenty-first of the month, the word of the LORD came [a]by Haggai the prophet, saying: 2 “Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying: 3 ‘Who is left among you who saw this [b]temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, <i>is this</i> not in your eyes as nothing? 4 Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ says the LORD; ‘and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,’ says the LORD, ‘and work; for I <i>am</i> with you,’ says the LORD of hosts. 5 ‘<i>According to</i> the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!’

Rā'ash ("shake") Cosmic/sovereign authority Hebrews 12:26 link	6 “For thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Once more (it <i>is</i> a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land;
Chemdath ("desire") Messianic promise Sovereign supply	7 and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the [c]Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this [d]temple with glory,’ says the LORD of hosts.
Absolute Ownership Ezra 6:8 fulfillment	8 ‘The silver <i>is</i> Mine, and the gold <i>is</i> Mine,’ says the LORD of hosts.
Greater Glory & Shalom Jesus as True Temple (Matt 12:6; John 2:19)	9 ‘The glory of this latter [e]temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the LORD of hosts. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the LORD of hosts.

THE DYNAMICS OF ENCOURAGEMENT (HAGGAI 2:1–9)

- **Clarity Over Nostalgia** —————> Victory over discouragement begins when we reject the paralyzing trap of comparing present obedience to past glory (*Kā'ayin* / vv. 1–3).
- **Grace-Fueled Action** —————> God’s call to “*Be strong and work*” (*Chazaq & Āśāh*) is not earned performance, but a response to His abiding presence (*Ruach* / vv. 4–5).
- **Sovereign Provision** —————> Divine work never lacks divine supply; the God who shakes the nations (*Rā'ash*) owns every resource needed to fulfill His mission (vv. 6–8).
- **The Greater Temple** —————> Every physical effort points beyond itself to Jesus Christ—the Desire of All Nations and our eternal Peace (*Shalom* / v. 9).

DISCOVERY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **OVERCOMING NOSTALGIA & COMPARISON (vv. 1–4):**

In verse 3, God directly confronts the human temptation to view current work as "*as nothing*" (*Kā'ayin*) compared to Solomon's temple. In what area of your life, family, or ministry are you tempted to let nostalgic comparison or small beginnings drain your joy, and how does God's command to "*be strong and work*" redirect your focus?

2. **SOVEREIGN PROVISION & THE GREATER TEMPLE (vv. 6–9):**

God reminds the exiles in verse 8 that "*the silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,*" proving His power by funding the rebuild through Persian tax revenues (Ezra 6:8) and pointing forward to Jesus as our ultimate Temple and *Shalom*. How does knowing that God owns all resources free you to serve, step out in faith, and give generously this week?