

Haggai Part 2 HANDOUT

7/10/22

People started building the Temple - Less than a month later, the work comes to a halt - the people have become discouraged and unhappy.

HAGGAI 2:1-3 1on the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: 2“Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, 3‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?

What’s the use? The glory of Solomon’s Temple can’t be matched. So the people stop building - they are discouraged.

KEY: Every Christian is part of building God’s church.

Maybe you have felt some of the same disappointment or discouragement that the Israelites were feeling.

God says, “I know what you are going through, I know it’s hard. But here’s the truth. I am with you.”

HAGGAI 2:4-5 4But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty.

5 ‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’

KEY: No matter how fruitless your efforts appear to be, God is at work in you and through you, building His church, and the future is bright.

HAGGAI 2:6-7 6“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. 7I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty.

This is pointing towards God’s final judgment. God is warning that anything outside of his building project will be shaken and destroyed. Then, God’s chosen people will come into the eternal temple of God in His new creation - and that place will be filled with His Glory.

God has an eternal view on things and he wants that for you too - **this life is not all there is.**

Don’t give up, be strong. Your work may look weak, you may feel weak, but God is bringing about something even more glorious than you can imagine.

KEY: We serve a God that takes the obedience and work of the ordinary, and He transforms it to the extraordinary!

HAGGAI 2:8-9 8‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. 9‘**The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,**’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

Don’t fix your eyes on the glory of the past, or try to measure up to a different time in history, instead - focus on the glory of God to come.

POINT: Don’t give up on the work God has called you to do.

God’s church will prevail and it will be the most glorious thing when we are face to face with Him.