

Haggai Part 4 HANDOUT

8/7/22

How do you devote yourself to building God's church when the world looks strong and the church looks weak?

2 Reasons why you don't need to fear:

HAGGAI 2:20-21 - 20The word of the Lord came to Haggai a second time on the twenty-fourth day of the month: 21“Tell Zerubbabel governor of Judah that I am going to shake the heavens and the earth.

The Lord will shake:

- Picture of the final judgement

Matthew 7:24-27 - wise and foolish builder

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

What will be shaken?

HAGGAI 2:22 - 22I will overturn royal thrones and shatter the power of the foreign kingdoms. I will overthrow chariots and their drivers; horses and their riders will fall, each by the sword of his brother.

- Over and over God reminds His people of His strength and might.
 - **Lord Almighty** - 14 times in Haggai. God of armies. Strong beyond all comprehension. True living God who is actually in control. This God is with you. The Power of God showing in His presence with you.

KEY: The world may think they are bigger and better than God's people - but that couldn't be farther from the truth.

HAGGAI 2:23 - 23“‘On that day,’ declares the Lord Almighty, ‘I will take you, my servant Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel,’ declares the Lord, ‘**and I will make you like my signet ring**, for I have chosen you,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

Signet ring: Ancient kings used signet rings to designate authority, honor, or ownership.

- Zerubbabel never became a king
- Just like king David, someone from his line would be King forever

Zerubbabel is the **grandson of Judah's King Jehoiachin** (also called Jeconiah in Matt 1:12).

KEY: God pictured Jehoiachin as a signet ring being removed from God's finger (Jeremiah 22:24). Now, God calls Zerubbabel the “signet ring,” but this time it won't be removed.

- God's promise isn't to Zerubbabel as an individual, but as part of the Davidic line
- Jesus was the ultimate promise of the Davidic line - the one who wears the signet ring of God

Why devote your life to building God's Church/Kingdom? Why should you deny yourself and follow Jesus with everything that is in you? Why commit to serving within your church, and be involved in discipleship in one of our life groups...and why should you invest your time and money and resources to reach out to the lost and make sacrifices so that you can multiply disciples that will go out and do the same thing in obedience to the Father? **Because Jesus is on the throne.**

POINT: Jesus is building His Church, and He is calling you to join Him.