

WATCH

When crisis hits, our bank account is often the first thing we begin to worry about. How will I pay my bills and take care of my responsibilities? Scripture reminds us that life is often out of our control and we need to trust that God will provide in His time and in His way.

The writing of Haggai takes place in the mid 6th century BC – God’s people are returning from exile. Their infrastructure, economy, and culture continue to greatly struggle from 70 years of captivity. God delivers a message of hope and encouragement regarding the people’s worry and disenchantment.

READ

Haggai 2: 1-9 & 1 Peter 5: 6-11

REACT

Contrast the reactions that likely happened between the older (who had seen the wealth of Solomon’s Temple) and younger generations (who only knew this smaller version) as they watched the temple building process. [Haggai 2: 3]

What are some of the specific ways God gives encouragement to the people?

In times of economic fear and uncertainty, remember that all economic goods belong to God, and He loans them to us in proportion and timing as He sees fit.

Peter encourages us to a similar trust in God’s timing.

What are some of the struggles that the enemy is sending your way?

What are the spiritual blessings that God is providing to you in this time?

REFLECT & PRAY

Pause to think about a situation when God was faithful to deliver you from uncertain times and what you learned about Him from the experience.

Is there an encouraging word you can share with someone struggling?

Look for opportunity to ease the burdens of those around you this week.

God, You are in control of all things, and all things belong to You. We ask You to restore lost jobs and give security to the vulnerable. Give us overwhelming peace from knowing Your providence and in trusting Your timing. Give us eyes to see the suffering around us and willing hearts and hands to share with those in need. God we put our trust in You.

Amen