

Obedience to the Word, the Glory of the Church!

Haggai 2:1-9

{Sermon 3}

Hag 2:1 In the seventh *month*, in the one and twentieth *day* of the month, came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying,

Note;

1. The specific timing of message.

“In the seventh *month*, in the one and twentieth *day* of the month”

God always has a time when he decides to speak to us.

Let us not take this for granted as if God will continue to speak to us.

Let us remember the exhortation in 2 Cor.

{Which is taken from Isaiah 49:8}

2Co 6:2

(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Or the solemn word of the proverb;

Pro 27:1 Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Geneva Bible

“Do not delay the time, but take the opportunity when it is offered.”

Illustration:

Could you imagine a man who has been wandering the streets for a number of days without food, being offered a meal and him saying that he did not have time to stop and eat?

He would be foolish. So are we if we do not take heed when God speaks to us.

So we have noticed;

1. The specific timing of message

Note 2;

2. The vital importance and relevance of the message.

“came the word of the LORD”

This was not just any message but it was the message from God himself.

A very common phrase in the old testament is;

“Thus Saith The Lord”

It appears in 413 verses.

It is very common in Jeremiah and Ezekiel

147 Jeremiah

126 Ezekiel

Total 273 verses.

In this little book of Haggai it appears 4 times.

*Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.
(Hag 1:5)*

*Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.
(Hag 1:7)*

*For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I
will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;
(Hag 2:6)*

*Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the
law, saying,
(Hag 2:11)*

{John Gill}

***came the word of the Lord by the Prophet
Haggai; the word of prophecy, as the Targum: this
was from the Lord, not from the prophet himself; he
was only the messenger sent with it to deliver it:***

So we have noticed

1. The specific timing of message
2. The vital importance and relevance of the message.

Now;

3. The method used in the communication of the message.

“came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai”

Note;

God speaks to his people through his prophet.

This has always been God’s method.

Note;

God does not speak to us through our feelings or imaginations but through his prophets/preachers.

Now let us consider;

4. The recipients of the message.

Hag 2:2 Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying,

Note;

God’s word is first and foremost for God’s people.

In fact we are told by Christ;

Mat 7:6

“Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.”

Next, let us consider;

5. The message itself! Verses 3-9

Note:

We have in this message;

1. A series of Questions posed.

<p>Hag 2:3 Who <i>is</i> left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? <i>is it</i> not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?</p>

Questions, by their very nature are more challenging than statements!

The Lord wants them to come to the right conclusion in their own minds.

He is not just looking for actions but for a willing mind!

Read Rev. 2:1-5

Is the glory of our love for Christ and great as it was when we were first converted?

2. We have in verse four a series of Exhortations.

Hag 2:4 Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I *am* with you, saith the LORD of hosts:

“Be strong and Work”

How much does this describe my Christian Life?

Am I strong for Christ?

Do I work for Christ?

Read Joshua 1: 6-9; 18

How to Avoid Frustration

Keep your shoulder to the wheel

Your hand to the helm

*Your eye on the ball!
Your nose to the grindstone
Your ear to the ground
And you will not have time to
Put your foot in your mouth.*

2Ti 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

3. Five reasons why we can be Strong!

<p><i>Hag 2:5 According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.</i></p>

1. The Word of God.
2. The Covenant of God.
3. The Deliverance of God.
4. The Presence of God.
5. The Command of God.

So we have had in;

Verse 3- Questions

Verse 4- Exhortations

Verse 5- Reasons

Now in verses 6-7

We have a series of Promises!

Hag 2:6 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry *land*;
Hag 2:7 And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Note:

1. Who has made the Promise.

Its not just “The Lord”

But

“For thus saith the LORD of hosts”

The one who rules all Powers and Armies and Angels and Devils.

2. How the promise would be fulfilled.

“Yet once”

Note:

There is no mistakes with God!

He does not need a second chance!

3. The timing of the promise.

“it is a little while”

We need to start thinking in God’s timing.

The enemy would tell us we have an endless life in this world.

Whereas the scripture tells us it is like a vapour!

4. The nature of the promise.

“and I will shake” the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry *land*;

Hag 2:7 And “I will shake” all nations

When God does act, it will effect everything!

5. The Focus of the Promise.

“and the desire of all nations shall come”

What does this mean?

It can only mean Christ, who is the one desired by all nations!

6. The blessing of the promise.

“and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.”

The real house is the Church.

When Christ comes he fills the Church with his presence!

The NT tells us that we are the true Temple of God!

2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Now, if we are the temple of God, look at the relevance of the next verse!

Hag 2:8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts.

We belong to God!

“Now I belong to Jesus”

In verse 8 we are the possession of God.

And finally in verse 9

We have

1. The Purpose of God.
2. The Peace of God

<p><i>Hag 2:9 The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.</i></p>

Rev 21:1 *And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

Rev 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Rev 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Rev 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.