

## Sermon Outline

September 27, 2020

Message #1: Aug 29, 520 B.C.

### I The Prophetic Rebuke

- A. The Complacency of the People (vs. 1-6)
- B. The Command from the Lord (vs. 7-8)
- C. The Cause of their Poverty (vs. 9-11)

### II The People's Response

- A. The Remnant's Obedience (v. 12a)
- B. Reverence for the Lord (v. 12b)
- C. Reassurance from the Lord (v. 13)
- D. Resumption of Labor (vs. 14-15)

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, September 27, 2020

Passage: Haggai 1:1-15

Memory Passage: Haggai 1:12-13

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Haggai 1:1-15.** The book of Haggai consists of four distinct messages delivered within a little less than four months in the year 520 B.C. 18 years earlier (538 B.C.), King Cyrus of Persia has issued a decree allowing the people who had been taken captive to Babylon to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the house of the Lord. In order to get a good understanding of the context of Haggai's four prophecies, we need to go back to the book of Ezra. Today's assignment is to read chapters 1-6 of Ezra and write down a list of key events that occurred during that time.

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Haggai 1:1-15.** To whom was Haggai's first message specifically addressed? (v.1)? Why is this significant?
- (b) What might have been the reason(s) that the people were saying that "the time has not yet come for the house of the Lord to be rebuilt"?
- (c) What does verse 4 reveal about the peoples' priorities?

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Haggai 1:1-15.** Verse 5 contains the first of five distinct admonitions in the little book of Haggai to "consider" (ESV) or "think carefully" (CSB) - see also 1:7; 2:15; 2:18a; 2:18b. In this first admonition, what exactly does the Lord want the people to "think carefully" about?
- (b) What does verse 6 tell you about the success of the people in achieving their goals?
- (c) What do you learn from verses 9-11 about God's role in regard to the peoples' misfortunes?
- (d) Read Leviticus 26:18-19; Deuteronomy 28:15-19; 38-44. How do the difficult experiences of the people in Haggai's day reflect the curses promised in these passages?

### DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Haggai 1:1-15.** Beginning in verse 12 we see how the people responded to Haggai's first message. What were the specific ways in which the people responded?
- (b) How did the Lord respond to the peoples' response?

- (c) Compare the date referenced in verse 1 to the date mentioned in verse 15. What does this indicate about the sincerity of the peoples' response to Haggai's message?

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Haggai 1:1-15.** How have you been challenged this week in regard to your own priorities? How do the daily activities of your life reflect what is most important to you?
- (b) Taking verse 6 & verses 9-11 into consideration, what should be our personal response when faced with financial or economic hardships in life? Do these kinds of hardships always indicate sinful actions or attitudes on our part? Why or why not?
- (c) Jot down some specific ways in which you will reorder priorities in your life in the coming week.

**DATE: September 27, 2020**

**PASSAGE: Haggai 1:1-15**

*From Apathy to Action*