

# HAGGAI 1 vs 1

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Prophet Haggai, whose name means: **my feast**; was the first prophetic voice to be heard after Judah was exiled in Babylon. A contemporary of Zechariah, he lived in Jerusalem around 520bc. This is the second building of the temple, after Solomon's temple was destroyed. The urgency and beauty of this building included the glory of the Lord; Messiah would come to it; instructing His people the first time; as He paid a price we could not pay. The future third temple, the prophets Isaiah and Zechariah tell us will be constructed under the careful watch of the Branch of Jesse who will put up a **TENT**. Ezekiel's massive temple is wrongly assigned to a future event, **Judah** never imagined what God could imagine had they all returned with joyfulness and gladness of heart, to build up Jerusalem. Instead a mere 10% of the Jewish people returned; the rest remained contented citizens of Babylon for nearly 2500 years until the return to Zion took place, as Jewish Zionism began to rise in England in the 1800s.



Haggai calls the people to consider their ways in neglecting to build the house of God, leaving us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to ask ourselves how are we helping to build up the house of God?

**<sup>1</sup> In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month / in modern day mid-August; the summer work in the fields was nearing its end and they were probably starting to anticipate the harvest, on the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of **Judah**, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,**

**<sup>2</sup> Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying, These people say, The time has not come for the house of the LORD to be rebuilt / while it was true, 2 of the 70 years prophesied by Jeremiah had not run their course for these sluggish people; and with all the delays from the foreigners, they were ingenious in their excuses; especially since neighborhood after neighborhood was being built at a rapid pace.**

**<sup>3</sup> Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,**

**<sup>4</sup> Is it time for you yourselves, to dwell in your paneled houses, as this house lies wasted?**

**<sup>5</sup> So now thus says the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways / concentrate, think carefully about your habits and actions.**

**<sup>6</sup> You have planted much, and harvest little; you eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but there is not enough to become drunk; you clothe yourself, but no one is kept warm; and he who earns, earns wages to put into a bag with holes.**

**<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD of hosts; think carefully about your ways.**

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<sup>8</sup> Go up into the hills, and bring lumber, and build the house, Then I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> You look expecting much, and, lo it amounts to little. When you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because My house is ruined, while each of you run to his own house.

<sup>10</sup> Therefore because of you, the heavens over you withhold its dew, and the earth has withheld its produce.

<sup>11</sup> And I called for a drought on the earth, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the olive oil, on what the ground produces, on man, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.

<sup>12</sup> Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, so the people feared the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> Then Haggai the messenger of the LORD, delivered the message of the LORD to the people, saying, I am with you, says the LORD.

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God / gathering the wood and stone and other materials for the work.,

<sup>15</sup> on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of King Darius / this was only 23 days elapsed after the first message of Haggai.

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