

Haggai 1:1-12 – Consider Your Ways

The Prophet (Verse 1a)

1. Not much is known of the Prophet, Haggai (*Festal*)
2. He is mentioned in Ezra 5:1, 6:14
3. Probably a young man who went into exile in Babylon in 586 BC, when Judah was conquered and the Temple was burned to the ground

The Context

1. 586 BC – Babylonians sacked Jerusalem, destroy temple, took most of the Jews into exile (**Hab 1.5-6**)
2. October, 539 BC – Persians under King Cyrus, conquer Babylon
3. 538 BC – Cyrus decrees by the hand of God to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem (**Ezra 1:1-2**)
4. Exiles returned to Judah: Started the work, but stopped due to opposition (**Ezra 4, see verse 24**)
5. 18 Years Pass: God raises up Haggai and Zechariah (**Ezra 5:1-2**)

The Structure/Prophecies/Dates: Over 4 Month Span

1. Oracle 1: August 29, 520 BC – Haggai 1:1-15
2. Oracle 2: October 17, 520 BC – Haggai 2:1-9
3. Oracle 3: December 18, 520 BC – Haggai 2:10-19
4. Oracle 4: December 18, 520 BC – Haggai 2:20-23

Main Idea of the Text: Consider Your Ways, For God Is Glorified In Repentance And Faithful Obedience.

God's Leaders (Verse 1b)

1. **Three Offices Of Israel: Prophet, Priest, King**
 - a. Haggai and Zechariah – Prophets
 - b. Joshua – High Priest
 - c. Zerubbabel – Governor of Judah
2. **Joshua's Role: Provide for the Annual Atonement for the Nation – Holy of Holies (see Leviticus 16)**

3. **Zerubbabel's Role: Build the Temple**

- a. King David desired to build a temple to the Lord
- b. Solomon built a grand temple
- c. It was the king's job to build the temple

God's Message To His Leaders (Verse 2)

1. **“This People” – Not Affectionate “My people...”**
2. **Finger of Accusation**
3. **The People's Language: Sounded Spiritual**
 - a. A Masquerade for Spiritual Piety
 - b. A Masquerade for Private Scorn
 - c. A Masquerade for Delay

God's Rebuke To His People (Verses 3-11)

1. **Why Is The Temple So Important?**
 - a. A Covenant Sign of Divine Presence
 - b. A Signal for International Missions
 - c. A Symptom of Spiritual Health
2. **Indifference & Neglect Warrant Divine Chiding**
 - a. **Verses 3-6, 9-11** – Consider Your Ways!
 - b. **Proverbs 3.11-12 and Hebrews 12.5-6**
 - c. Pursuit of Satisfying Self Produces Frustration and Discontentment
3. **Divine Commands Have One Objective: Glory!**
 - a. **Verses 7-8** – Consider Your Ways!
 - b. **1 Corinthians 10:31 and Matthew 10:39**
 - c. The Glory of God – Aim of All Life
 - d. The Pleasures of God – Be Obedient

The People's Faithful Response, Part 1 (Verse 12)

This is not about building a church building, it is about faith and repentance leading to obedience to God for His glory

The Two Sided Coin: Repentance and Faith → Obedience