**Haggai – Consider your ways – rebuild the temple!**

Between Zephaniah and Haggai is the period of the captivity of Judah in Babylon. Haggai is the first of the three post exile prophets along with Zechariah and Malachi

Haggai means festival. Haggai joined the exiles on their return to Jerusalem after the years in Babylon.

2 Chron. 7:19 – 22 – warning to Solomon & Israel for disobedience to God’s word

Exile & destruction of the temple

The Exiles returned and the Temple lie in ruins. God’s work called for them to rebuild the temple in order for Messiah to come!

**Sermon 1 - Consider Your ways 1: 1-15**

**The excuse of the people** – 1: 2 - the time has not come, even the time for the house of the Lord to be rebuilt

**God’s response to the people – 1:3 -5**

Is it time for you to dwell in your paneled houses while this house lies desolate?

Consider your ways! – Lit. set your heart on your ways

Self – examination

The temple is in ruins

The people have built their houses

The people still have not learned the lesson of obedience even from the years of exile

**The futility of the people’s efforts because of disobedience – 1:6 - 11**

Sow much – harvest little

Eat – but not satisfied

Drink – but not enough to drink

Clothing – not warm enough

Save money – purse has holes

You look for much but it comes to little

“because of My House which lies desolate, while each of you runs to his own house” – 1:9

“because of you the sky has withheld its dew and the earth has withheld its produce” – 1:10

Deut. 28:15 – if you disobey you will experience all these curses

28:38 – 40

Hos. 8:7 – For they will sow the wind and they reap the whirlwind. The standing grain has no heads, it yields no grain

**Disobedience brings the resistance of God on our efforts & works!**

**The people obey the word of the God – 1:12 -15**

1:12 – they obeyed God & the words of the prophet Haggai

1:12 – they showed reverence for God – they lived in the fear of God

Pr. 1:7 – the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge

**God’s word of assurance to the peoples obedience – 1:13 – I am with you!**

**God stirred up the spirit of the people to work on the Temple – 1:14**

Zech. 4:6 – not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts

**Sermon 2 – Take courage 2: 1-9**

***God’s encouragement of His presence – 2: 3-4***

Ezra 3:12 – Many of the old men who had seen the first temple wept with a loud voice…

2:3 -Who saw the former glory of the Temple? – don’t be discouraged by the current condition

2:4 – I am with you

***God’s promise of His Spirit & His provision for the new Temple – 2:5***

***God’s promise of the Millennial temples’ future glory & the coming of Messiah – 2: 6- 9***

I will shake the heavens, earth, sea & dry land – 2:6

I will shake the nations, they will come with the wealth of all nations – 2:7 - 8

I will fill this house with glory 2:7

“the desire of all nations will come” – Dan 2:44

The Lord Jesus Christ is the desire of all nations!

***God’s promise of peace coming out of the Millennial Temple 2:9***

The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts, and in this place I will give peace – declares the Lord of hosts

Ezek. 40 -42 – promise of the coming millennial temple

Joel 3:18 – In that day…a spring will go out from the house of the Lord

Is. 60:7 – they will go up with acceptance on My altar, and I shall glorify My glorious House

Rev.11:1 – get up and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship in it.

Isa. 9:6 – for a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us, and the government will rest on His shoulders, and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of peace.

**Sermon 3 – I will bless you 2:10 – 19**

***God’s reminder of the corrupting nature of sinfulness – 2:11 -14***

2: 11 -14- The work of the people was unclean – they were not pure in the motivation

2:15 – 17 – God disciplines His people in their sin but they still would not come back to Him

2:17 – “yet you did not come back to Me”

***God’s promise of future blessing – 2: 15 – 19***

God calls them to consider His promise & their past sins yet His blessing on them

Consider – 2:15, 18 – consider God’s grace on them in spite of their sinfulness

God will rebuild the temple before the Lord Jesus returns

**Sermon 4 – I have chosen you 2:20 -23**

***God’s promise to overthrow the gentile nations – 2:22***

I will overthrow the thrones of kingdoms and destroy the power of kingdoms of the nations

Zeph. 3:8 – to gather the nations and pour on them My indignation, all My burning anger

***God’s promise of blessing on Zerubbabel the governor of Judah as a type of Christ – 2:23***

I have chosen you

The rebuilding of the temple in Haggai’s day was not the final promised temple for the coming of the Messiah – the Millennial temple.

The latter day temple was yet to come – in the second coming of Jesus Christ

The book of Zechariah will make these truths clearer