

SERMON OUTLINE

Haggai 2

Prophetic Promises and Priestly Pronouncements

- I. *Message #2: Promises to the People* – Oct 17, 520 B.C.
 - a. Pertinent Questions (vv. 1-3)
 - b. Promise of the Lord's Presence (vv. 4-5)
 - c. Promise of the Lord's Provision (vv. 6-8)
 - d. Promise of Glory and Peace (v. 9)
- II. *Message #3: Principles of Holiness and Defilement* - Dec 18, 520 B.C.
 - a. Non-Contagious Holiness (vv. 10-12)
 - b. Contagious Defilement (vv. 13-14)
 - c. Consequences of Obedience (vs. 15-19)
- III. *Message #4: Prophecy Concerning Zerubbabel* - Dec 18, 520 B.C.
 - a. A Crushing of Nations (vv. 20-22)
 - b. A Chosen Signet Ring (v. 23)

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, October 4, 2020

Passage: Haggai 2:1-23

Memory Passage: Haggai 2:4

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Haggai 2:1-23.** According to the dates mentioned in Haggai 1:14-15 and Haggai 2:1, how much time has elapsed between the end of chapter 1 and the beginning of chapter 2?

(b) In verse 3 of chapter 2 we find a series of 3 questions concerning the former glory of the temple. In Ezra 3:12 we read the account of weeping and rejoicing when the foundation of the temple had been laid some 16 years earlier. What do these two passages reveal about the nature of the rebuilding project and the peoples' attitudes toward it?

(c) Verse 4 contains 3 commands to "be strong" as well as a command to "work." What is the difference between "being strong" and "working," and how do they relate to each other?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Haggai 2:1-23.** In verses 5-7 the people are reminded of the Lord's faithfulness in the past (when you came out of Egypt), the reassurance of his presence during their current labors (My spirit remains in your midst), and promises for the future (vv. 6-7). How would these reminders serve as a source of encouragement to the people given their present circumstances?

(b) In what sense(s) will the latter glory of this house be greater than the former (v.9)?

(c) What is significant about the promise of "peace in this place" (v.9)?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Haggai 2:1-23.** Haggai's 3rd and 4th messages take place on the same day. The first message concerns getting a pronouncement from the Priests concerning two possible scenarios. The first scenario has to do with the transmission of holiness, while the second deals with the transmission of defilement or uncleanness. Which of the two is more "contagious," holiness or uncleanness? Why?

(b) According to v.14, what is the point of this ruling from the Priests?

(c) What are the people to do in light of the Priestly ruling and Haggai's application of it?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Haggai 2:1-23.** In verses 15-18 we find 3 specific exhortations to “consider” or “think carefully” what each exhortation is challenging the people to “think carefully” about.

(b) Based on verses 14-17, how do the peoples’ attitudes in the past compare to their response to Haggai’s message in the present? Do you think the people’s labors in regard to rebuilding the temple are being carried out with the right motives? Why or why not?

(c) How does the Lord promise to respond to the people in the future as compared to the past (v. 19)? What might account for this change?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Haggai 2:1-23.** In verse 20 we have another promise from the Lord to shake the heavens, the earth and the nations (see vv. 6-7) What does this “shaking” refer to?

(b) What was the significance of a “signet ring” in Haggai’s day?

(c) How do the Lord’s exhortations to the people of Judah challenge and comfort you today? Write out a list of at least 3 different ways.

DATE: October 4, 2020

PASSAGE: Haggai 2:1-23

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