



RIGHT PRIORITIES
Unleash
KINGDOM PROSPERITY



REBUILDING *the* TEMPLE

Needing to rebuild their own homes and reestablish their own lives, God's people decided it really wasn't a good time for a building campaign.

Haggai 1:1-15

In the second year of King Darius, on [August 29th], the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua, the high priest: This is what the Lord says: "These people say, 'The time has not yet come for the Lord's house to be built.'" The Lord says: "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while my house remains a ruin? Give careful thought to your ways.

You plant much, but harvest little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put it in a purse with holes in it." The Lord says: "Give careful thought to your ways. Go to the mountains, bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified. You expect much, but see, it turned out to be little.

Haggai 1:1-15

What you brought home, I blew away. Why? Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house. Therefore, the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the oil and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, and on the labor of your hands." Then Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the whole

remnant of the Jews obeyed God's voice and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the Lord their God had sent him. So they feared God. Then Haggai gave this word of the Lord to them: "I am with you," declares the Lord. So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel, the spirit of Joshua, and the spirit of the people. They came and began to work on God's house on [September 21] in the second year of King Darius.

A MINOR PROPHET'S
Major Issue

- ✓ Reestablish our lives, and...
- ✓ Rebuild our homes, then...
- ✓ Reconstruct God's house

Not for a month, or six months, a year, not ten years, but for seventeen years the Jewish remnant told "God *will get to it*" .

Haggai 1:2

“These people say, ‘The time has not yet come for the Lord’s house to be built.’”



Their response is tantamount to practical atheism: not denying God's existence, but denying his preeminence.

Haggai 1:4

“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while my house remains a ruin?”

Paneled Houses:

Beyond basic repairs to adorning their homes with luxurious paneling.

THE PROBLEM WITH
Misplaced Priorities

Every time I complete one, another one takes its place—and without realizing it, seventeen years come and go.

THE PROBLEM WITH
Misplaced Priorities

They rebuilt their homes, re-established their careers, restarted their families, and got into the routine of putting God off.

THE PROBLEM WITH
Misplaced Priorities

The Jews display an "I'll get to it" attitude.

God desires a
"Yes, Lord, I'll be happy to do it!" answer.

Haggai 1:5

"Give careful thought to your ways."



God doesn't want them to
respond out of fear.

He wants them to reflect on what life has
been like with misplaced priorities.

Haggai 1:6 & 9

"You've planted much but harvest little, eat but aren't satisfied, drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but can't keep warm. Your paycheck goes into a purse with holes in it...You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why? Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house."



WHEN I FAIL TO PUT GOD FIRST,
WHAT I PUT FIRST *will* FAIL.

I have only one day to say,
"Yes, God, I'll be happy to do it!"

Not someday, but today!

God's glory is God's remedy
for misplaced priorities.

*"Go to the mountains, bring wood and build my
temple, so I can take pleasure in it and be glorified."*

Haggai 1:8

THE *Real* ISSUE

Not so much neglect of a building, but
indifference to the glory of God that
the building represented.

Then: The temple existed for God's glory.

Today: The church exists for God's glory.

Indifference to the church's mission

is always symptomatic of neglecting
the glory of God.

A Remarkable TURN-AROUND

Haggai 1:12

“They obeyed the Lord’s message and started showing proper respect for the Lord.”

Haggai 1:13-14

“I am with you,” declares the Lord. So God stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel, the spirit of Joshua, and the spirit of the people. And they began to work on God’s house.”

PRIORITIZING *God's* PRIORITIES

1

A revelation of God’s presence:

“I am with you,” declares the Lord.” Haggai 1:13

The greatest miracle of Kingdom Builders won't be the building we put up, but that God shows up.

PRIORITIZING *God's* PRIORITIES

2

An infusion of God’s power:

“So the Lord stirred their spirit.” Haggai 1:14

Where I put God first, there God will ignite my energies.

PRIORITIZING *God's* PRIORITIES

3

A visitation of God’s glory:

“I will fill this house with glory.” Haggai 2:7

The best outcome of my obedience is a visitation of the glory of God.

PRIORITIZING *God's* PRIORITIES

4

A provision of God's resources:

"The silver and the gold are mine," declares the Lord." Haggai 2:8

God owns it all anyway, so when I make him my priority, he will release more than enough for his work and my work.



"The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house...And in this place I will grant peace," declares the Lord Almighty."

Haggai 2:9

When we prioritize building God's house^{ma}
promoting God's work^{ma} and exalting
God's glory^{ma} we tap into the manifest
presence of God himself^{mi}



Will you *pray*?

Will you *work*?

Will you *give*?



SUS Yes, Lord, I'll be happy to do it!
