



336 Oakwood Avenue
Orange, NJ

Rev. Melvin E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher

Email: pastorwilson@stmatthewame.org

Cell: (914) 562-6331



“Almost” Everything You Need to Know About...



Tuesday, September 28, 2021
Online Bible Study

I. BASIC DETAILS ABOUT THE BOOK

1. We are studying the book at a good time chronologically. (1:1)

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, **(September 24, 520 BC)** the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest:

2. Haggai means **“festival”** or **“festive”**
3. 37th book of the Bible; 15th of 17 books of prophecy (Isaiah – Malachi); 10th of the 12 minor prophets (Hosea – Malachi). 2 chapters, 38 verses, 1,131 words.
4. Second shortest book in the Old Testament (Obadiah)
5. Haggai’s name is mentioned 9 times in this book.
6. Should read the book of Haggai along with the book of Ezra. Haggai is mentioned twice in the book of Ezra (5:1-2; 6:14).
7. Haggai prophesied for a span of 15 weeks, from the sixth to the ninth months.

For St. Matthew members, this book serves as the foundation for the Haggai Initiative Fund

II. THE 4 MESSAGES OF HAGGAI

1. The Message to Rebuild the House of the Lord – 1:1-11

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest: ²This is what the LORD Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the LORD’s house.’” ³Then the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai: ⁴“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” ⁵Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. ⁶You have planted much, but harvested 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

them in a purse with holes in it.” ⁷ This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. ⁸ Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the LORD. ⁹ “You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?” declares the LORD Almighty. “Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house. ¹⁰ Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. ¹¹ I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the olive oil and everything else the ground produces, on people and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands.”

2. The People Respond to the Message and Resume Building – 1:12-15

¹² Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the LORD their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the LORD their God had sent him. And the people feared the LORD. ¹³ Then Haggai, the LORD’s messenger, gave this message of the LORD to the people: “I am with you,” declares the Lord. ¹⁴ So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty, their God, ¹⁵ on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month.

3. Message to Be Strong, for God Will Fill His House with Glory – 2:1-9

¹ on the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai: ² “Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak,^[a] the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, ³ ‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? ⁴ But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the LORD. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the LORD, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the LORD Almighty. ⁵ ‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’ ⁶ “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘In a little

while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷ I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD Almighty. ⁸ 'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the LORD Almighty. ⁹ 'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the LORD Almighty."

4. Message to Be Holy, for God Will Bless His People – 2:10-19

¹⁰ On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Haggai: ¹¹ "This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Ask the priests what the law says: ¹² If someone carries consecrated meat in the fold of their garment, and that fold touches some bread or stew, some wine, olive oil or other food, does it become consecrated?'" The priests answered, "No." ¹³ Then Haggai said, "If a person defiled by contact with a dead body touches one of these things, does it become defiled?" "Yes," the priests replied, "it becomes defiled." ¹⁴ Then Haggai said, "'So it is with this people and this nation in my sight,' declares the LORD. 'Whatever they do and whatever they offer there is defiled. ¹⁵ "'Now give careful thought to this from this day on^[b]—consider how things were before one stone was laid on another in the LORD's temple. ¹⁶ When anyone came to a heap of twenty measures, there were only ten. When anyone went to a wine vat to draw fifty measures, there were only twenty. ¹⁷ I struck all the work of your hands with blight, mildew and hail, yet you did not return to me,' declares the LORD. ¹⁸ 'From this day on, from this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, give careful thought to the day when the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid. Give careful thought: ¹⁹ Is there yet any seed left in the barn? Until now, the vine and the fig tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree have not borne fruit. "'From this day on I will bless you.'"

5. Message to Zerubbabel of Future Blessing – 2:20-23

²⁰ The word of the LORD came to Haggai a second time on the twenty-fourth day of the month: ²¹ "Tell Zerubbabel governor of Judah that I am going to

shake the heavens and the earth. ²² I will overturn royal thrones and shatter the power of the foreign kingdoms. I will overthrow chariots and their drivers; horses and their riders will fall, each by the sword of his brother. ²³ "'On that day,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'I will take you, my servant Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel,' declares the LORD, 'and I will make you like my signet ring, for I have chosen you,' declares the LORD Almighty."

III. MAJOR THEMES OF HAGGAI

#1



- The importance of taking care of God's House
- What **"House"** is being rebuilt?



- 536 BC – The work began
- 534 BC – After 2 years, the work stopped for 14 years (enemies, outside

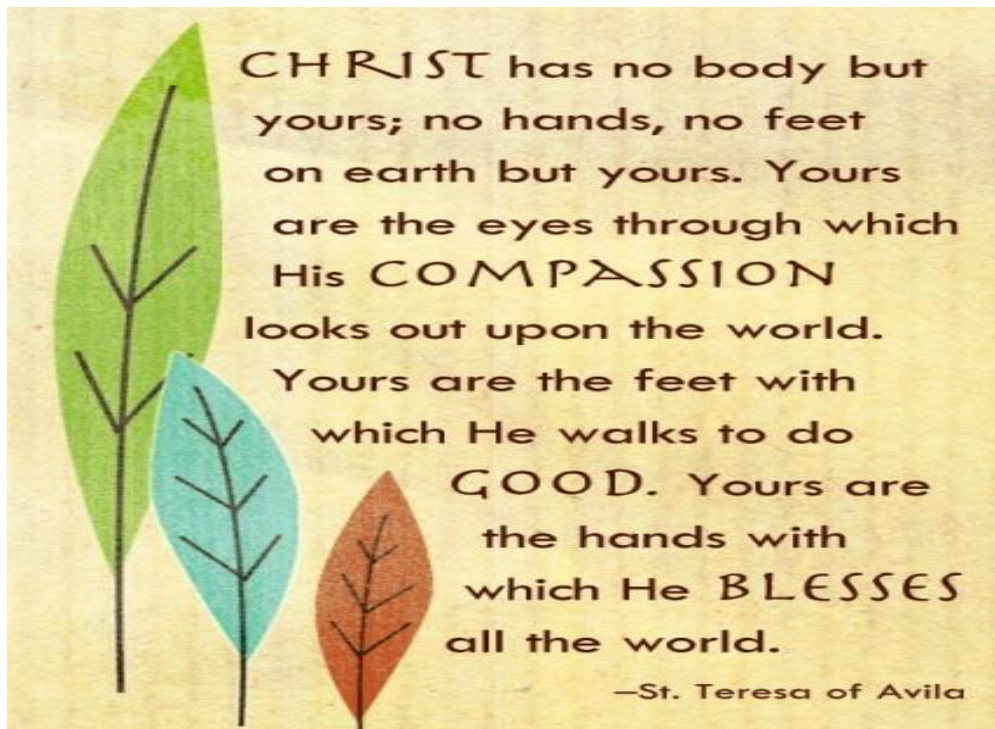
interference)

- 520 BC – The work resumed and was completed 4 years later
- 516 BC – The work was completed
- **SPECIAL NOTE: Six years of actual work was done over a twenty-year period!**
- If we take care of God’s house **FIRST** (literally and figuratively), our houses will be taken care of. Not an **“either/or”** proposition.
- **“Our values and priorities are reflected in how we use our resources – time, money, strength, and [gifts.]”**

#2



- Why does the initial excitement wane?



#3



*God Does NOT Have to Bless
Us. God Can Withhold
Blessings. Blessings Are Not
Automatic!*

#4

**Let's Make Sure We Understand
The Biblical Definition Of**

glory

“weighty” “heaviness”

#5



IV. BIBLE PROJECT VIDEO ON HAGGAI

VII. NEXT WEEK: READ ZECHARIAH

- Tuesday, October 12 – Summary
- Tuesday, October 19 – New Area of Study.

Join us on the St. Matthew Prayer Line daily at 6 am & 9:30 pm.

CALL-IN PHONE NUMBER: (206) 806-9984