

## HAGGAI

### The Argument

When the time of the seventy years captivitie prophesied by Jeremiah, was expired, God raised up Haggái, Zechariáh and Malachí to comfort the Jewes and to exhort them to the buylding of the Temple, which was a figure of the spiritual Temple and Church of God, whose perfection and excellence stood in Christ. And because that all were given to their own pleasures and commodities, he declareth that that plague of famine, which God sent among them, was a just reward of their ingratitude, in that they contemned God's honor, who had delivered them. Yet he comforteth them, if they will return to the Lord, with the promise of greater felicity, forasmuch as the Lord will finish the work that he hath begonne, and send Christ whom he had promised, and by whom they should attain to perfect joy and glory.

#### Chapter 1

*1 The time of the prophecie of Haggái. 8 An exhortation to build the Temple again.*

In the second year of King <sup>a</sup>Darius, in the sixth month, the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord (by the ministry of the Prophet Haggái) unto <sup>b</sup>Zerubbabél the son of Shealtiél, a prince of Judáh, and to Jehoshúa the son of Jehozadák the high Priest, saying.

2 Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not yet come, <sup>c</sup>that the Lord's House should be builded.

3 Then came the word of the Lord by the ministry of the Prophet Haggái, saying,

4 Is it time for your selves to dwell in your <sup>d</sup>filled houses, and this House lie waste?

5 Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, Consider your own ways in your hearts,

6 <sup>e</sup>Ye have sown much, and bring in little: ye eat, but ye have not enough: ye drink, but ye are not filled: ye clothe you, but ye be not warm: and he that earneth wages, putteth the wages into a broken bag.

7 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Consider your own ways in your hearts.

8 Go <sup>f</sup>up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build this House, and <sup>g</sup>I will be favorable in it, and I will <sup>h</sup>be glorified, saith the Lord.

9 Ye looked for much, and lo, *it came* to little: and when ye brought it home, I did blow <sup>i</sup>upon it. And why, saith the Lord of hosts? Because of mine House that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.

10 Therefore the heaven over you stayed it self from dew, and the earth stayed her fruit.

11 And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the wine, and upon the oil, upon *all* that the ground bringeth forth: both upon men and upon cattle, and upon all the labor of the hands.

12 When Zerubbabél the son of Shealtiél, and Jehoshúa the son of Jehozadák the high Priest with all the remnant of the people, heard the <sup>k</sup>voice of the Lord their God, and the words of the

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1 a Who was the son of Hystaspis, and the third King of the Persians, as some think.

1 b Because the building of the Temple began to cease by reason that the people were discouraged by their enemies: and if these two notable men had need to be stirred up and admonished of their duties, what shall we think of other governors whose doings are either against God, or very cold in his cause?

2 c Not that they condemned the building thereof, but they preferred policy, and private profit to religion, being content with small beginnings.

4 d Showing that they sought not only their necessities, but their very pleasures before God's honor?

6 e Consider the plagues of God upon you for preferring your policies to his religion, and because you seek not him first of all.

8 f Meaning, that they should leave off their own commodities, and go forward in the building of God's Temple and in the setting forth of his religion.

8 g That is, I will hear your prayers according to my promises, 1 Kings 8.29.

8 h That is, my glory shall be set forth by you.

9 i And so bring it to nothing.

12 k This declared that God was the author of the doctrine, and that he was but the minister, as Ex. 14.31, Judges 7.20, Acts 15.28.

Prophet Haggái (as the Lord their God had sent him) then the people did fear before the Lord.

13 Then spake Haggái the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord.

14 And the Lord stirred up <sup>l</sup>the spirit of Zerubbabél, the son of Shealtiél a prince of Judáh, and the spirit of Jehoshúa the son of Jehozadák the high Priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people, and they came, and did the work in the House of the Lord of hosts their God.

#### Chapter 2

*He sheweth that the glory of the second Temple shall exceed the first.*

In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of King Darius, 2 In the seventh *month*, in the one and twentieth *day* of the month, came the word of the Lord by the ministry of the Prophet Haggái, saying,

3 Speak now to Zerubbabél the son of Shealtiél prince of Judáh, and to Jehoshúa the son of Jehozadák the high Priest, and to the residue of the people, saying,

4 Who is left among you, that saw this <sup>a</sup>House in her first glory, and how do you see it now? Is it not in your eyes, in comparison of it as nothing?

5 Yet now be of good courage, ô Zerubbabél, saith the Lord, and be of good comfort, ô Jehoshúa, son of Jehozadák the high Priest: and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and <sup>b</sup>do it: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts,

6 *According* to the word that I covenanted with you, when ye came out of Egypt: so my Spirit shall remain among you, fear ye not.

7 For thus saith the Lord of hosts, <sup>c</sup>Yet a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land:

8 And I will move all nations, and <sup>d</sup>the desire of all nations shall come, and I will fill this House with glory, saith the Lord of hosts.

9 The <sup>e</sup>silver *is* mine, & the gold *is* mine, saith the Lord of hosts.

10 The glory of this last House shalbe greater then the first, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give <sup>f</sup>peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

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14 l Which declares that men are unapt and dull to serve the Lord, neither can they obey his word or his messengers before God reform their hearts and give them new spirits, John 6.44.

#### Chapter 2

4 a For the people according as Is. 32.15, and Ezek. 41.1, had prophesied, thought this Temple should have been more excellent then Salomón's Temple, which was destroyed by the Babylonians, but the Prophets meant the spiritual Temple, the Church of Christ.

5 b That is, go forward in building the Temple.

7 c He exhorts them to patience though they see not as yet this Temple so glorious as the Prophets had declared for this should be accomplished in Christ by whom all things should be renewed.

8 d Meaning, Christ whom all ought to look for and desire: or by desire, he may signify all precious things, as riches and such like.

9 e Therefore when his time comes, he can make all the treasures of the world to serve his purpose: but the glory of this second Temple does not stand in material things neither can be built.

10 f Meaning, all spiritual blessings & felicity purchased by Christ, Phil. 4.7.

11 ¶ In the four and twentieth *day* of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto the Prophet Haggái, saying,

12 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, Ask now the Priest *concerning* the Law, and say,

13 If one bear <sup>h</sup>holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch the bread, or the potage, or the wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the Priests answered and said, No.

14 Then said Haggái, If a polluted person touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the Priests answered, and said, It shall be unclean.

15 Then answered Haggái, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the Lord: and so *are* all the works of their hands, and that which they offer here, is unclean.

16 And now, I pray you, consider in your minds: from this <sup>h</sup>day, and afore, *even* afore a stone was laid upon a stone in the Temple of the Lord:

17 Before these things were, <sup>h</sup>when one came to an heap of twenty *measures*, there were but ten: when one came to the wine press for to draw out fifty *vessels* out of the press, there were but twenty.

18 I smote you with blasting, & with mildew, & with hail, in all the

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13 g That is, the flesh of the sacrificers: where by he signified that that thing, which of itself is good, can not make another thing so: and therefore they ought not to justify themselves by their sacrifices and ceremonies: but contrary he that is unclean and not pure of heart, does corrupt those things and make them detestable unto God which else are good and godly.

16 h Consider how God did plague you with famine afore you began to build the Temple.

17 i That is, before the building was begun.

labors of your hands: yet you *turned* not to me, saith the Lord.

19 Consider, I pray you, in your minds from <sup>k</sup>this day, and afore from the four and twentieth day of the ninth *month*, *even* from the day that the foundation of the Lord's Temple was laid: consider it in you minds.

20 Is the <sup>l</sup>seed yet in the barn? as yet the vines, and the figtree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree hath not brought forth from this day will I bless *you*.

21 And again the word of the Lord came unto Haggái in the four and twentieth *day* of the month, saying,

22 Speak to Zerubbabél the prince of Judáh, and say, I <sup>m</sup>will shake the heavens and the earth,

23 And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the <sup>n</sup>kingdoms of the heathen, and I will overthrow the charets, and those that ride in them, and the horse and the riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.

24 In that day, saith the Lord of hosts, will I take thee, ô Zerubbabél my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the Lord, and will make thee as a <sup>o</sup>signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the Lord of hosts.

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19 k From the time they began to build the Temple, he promised that God would bless them: and albeit as yet the fruit was not come forth, yet in the gathering they should have plenty.

20 l He exhorts them to patience and to abide till the harvest came and then they should see God's blessings.

22 m I will make a change and renew all things in Christ, of whom Zerubbabél here is a figure.

23 Hereby he shows that there shall be no let or hindrance when God will make this wonderful restitution of his Church.

24 o Signifying that his dignity should be most excellent, which thing was accomplished in Christ.