

Haggai

¹ In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of Yahweh came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and to the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, saying, ² “Yahweh of hosts says this: These people say, ‘It is not time for us to come or to build Yahweh’s house.’” ³ Then the word of Yahweh came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴ “Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your finished houses, while this house lies ruined?

⁵ So now Yahweh of hosts says this: Consider your ways!

⁶ You have sown much seed, but bring in little harvest; you eat but do not have enough; you drink but cannot get drunk. You wear clothes but cannot warm yourselves, and the wage earner earns money only to put it into a bag full of holes!

⁷ Yahweh of hosts says this: “Consider your ways!

⁸ Go up to the mountain, bring timber, and build my house; then I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified!—says Yahweh.”

⁹ “You looked for much, but behold! you have brought little home, for I blew it away!

Why?” declares Yahweh of hosts.

“Because my house lies in ruins, while every one of you is working on his own house.

¹⁰ Because of this the heavens withhold the dew from you, and the earth withholds its produce.

¹¹ I have summoned a drought upon the land and upon the mountains, upon the grain and upon the new wine, upon the oil and upon the harvest of the earth, upon men and upon beasts, and upon all the labor of your hands!”

¹² Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, along with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of Yahweh their God and the words of Haggai the prophet, because Yahweh their God had sent him and the people feared the face of Yahweh.

¹³ Then Haggai, the messenger of Yahweh, spoke Yahweh's message to the people and said, “I am with you!—this is Yahweh's declaration!” ¹⁴ So Yahweh stirred up the spirit of the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and the spirit of the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people, so that they went and worked on the house of Yahweh of hosts, their God ¹⁵ in the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

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¹ In the seventh month on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of Yahweh came by the

hand of Haggai the prophet, saying, ² “Speak to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and to the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, and to the remnant of the people. Say,

³ ‘Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How do you see it now? Is it not like nothing in your eyes?

⁴ Now, be strong, Zerubbabel!—this is Yahweh's declaration— and be strong, high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak; and be strong, all you people in the land!—this is Yahweh's declaration— and work, for I am with you!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁵ This is the covenant that I established with you when you came out of Egypt, and my Spirit remains with you. Do not fear!

⁶ For Yahweh of hosts says this: In a little while I will once again shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land!

⁷ I will shake every nation, and every nation will bring their precious things to me, and I will fill this house with glory, says Yahweh of hosts.

⁸ The silver and gold are mine!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.

⁹ The glory of this house will be greater in the future than at the beginning, says Yahweh of hosts, and I will give peace in this place!—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts.”

¹⁰ On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of Yahweh came by Haggai the prophet, saying, ¹¹ “Yahweh of hosts says this: Ask the priests concerning the law, and say, ¹² ‘If a man carries meat that is set apart to Yahweh in the fold of his garment, and the fold touches bread or stew, wine or oil, or any kind of food, does it become holy?’” The priests answered and said, “No.” ¹³ Then Haggai said, “If someone who is unclean because of death touches any of these things, do they become unclean?” The priests answered and said, “Yes, they become unclean.” ¹⁴ So Haggai answered and said, “So it is with this people and this nation before me!—this is Yahweh’s declaration—and so it is with everything done by their hands. What they offer to me is unclean! ¹⁵ So now, think in your minds about the past leading up to this very day. Before stone was placed upon stone in the temple of Yahweh, ¹⁶ how was it then? When you came to a heap of twenty measures of grain, there were only ten; and when you came to the wine vat to draw out fifty measures, there were only twenty. ¹⁷ I afflicted you and all the work of your hands with blight and mildew, but you still did not turn to me—this is Yahweh’s declaration. ¹⁸ Consider from this day forward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, from the day that the foundation of Yahweh’s temple was laid. Consider it! ¹⁹ Is there still seed in the storehouse? The vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have not

produced! But from this day will I bless you!”

²⁰ Then the word of Yahweh came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month and said, ²¹ “Speak to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel, and say,

‘I will shake the heavens and the earth.

²² For I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms and destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations!

I will overthrow the chariots and their riders; the horses and their riders will fall down, each one because of his brother's sword.

²³ On that day—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—I will take you, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, as my servant—this is Yahweh's declaration.

I will make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you!

—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts!”

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