

Discussion Questions

Read Haggai 1.

What was the main message of Haggai's first sermon to God's people? What has been happening to them? Why has it been happening? What did God want them to do? What had they been doing instead?

In what ways do you get "busy with your own house" instead of living for God's priorities?

Read Haggai 2:1-9.

What is the main message of Haggai's second sermon to God's people? What was the problem? What is God's command? What is God's promise?

In what ways do you let discouragement and fear distract you from working hard for God's kingdom?

What was the purpose of God's temple? How did the Jewish people relate to it? How would the world relate to it?

Did God's promises for the temple fail? It was destroyed in 70 AD and has never been rebuilt? How does the church (that is, how do we) fulfill the promises God made about His temple (Eph 2:19-22)?

How does this truth help us not to fear, but to be strong and work for God's glory?

Read Haggai 2:10-19.

What is the main message of Haggai's third sermon to God's people? What was the problem? How did they misunderstand the relationship between religious duty and sinful lifestyles?

In what ways is God calling you to obey Him more fully?

Read Haggai 2:20-23.

What was the main message of Haggai's final sermon to God's people? Who was it spoken to?

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What was his background (1 Chron 3:17, Jeremiah 22:24-30)? What does God promise him?

Zerubbabel never became king. But his name shows up again in Matthew 1:12 as an ancestor of Jesus, the promised Messiah. God restored the kingly line through Zerubbabel, which led to something better than a king on the throne of Judah, but rather Jesus reigning as king over all. This is a much better fulfillment. But how much of this did Zerubbabel understand?

How do we trust God when His promises seem to be failing?

Are there any areas in your life in which you need to trust God more deeply?