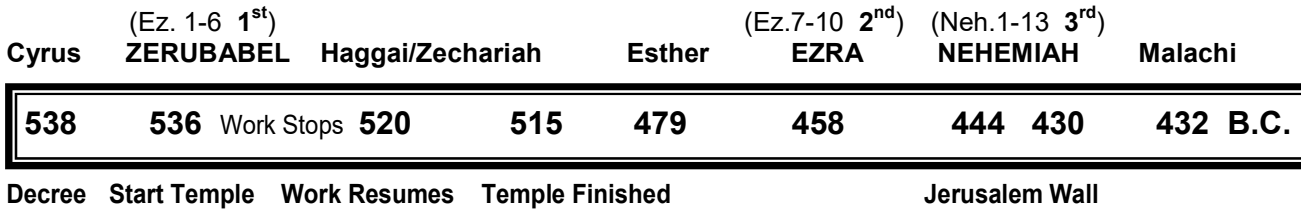


WHAT is Holding You BACK? ~ Haggai 1:1-15

→ Scripture Reading Ezra 1:1-6

Haggai in Historical CONTEXT



SELF-CENTERED Priorities ~ Haggai 1:1-4 Ettinger

¹ On August 29 of the second year of King Darius's reign, the LORD gave a message THROUGH the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. ² "This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: The people are saying, 'The time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.'" ³ Then the LORD sent this message through the prophet Haggai: ⁴ "Why are you living in luxurious houses while My House lies in ruins? (NLT)

IMPLICATION

Consequences of WRONG Priorities ~ Haggai 1:9-11 (Ettinger)

⁵ This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you! ⁶ You have planted much but harvest little. You eat but are not satisfied. You drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes! ⁷ "This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you! ⁸ Now go up into the hills, bring down timber, and rebuild my house. Then I will take pleasure in it and be honored, says the LORD. (NLT)

⁹ You hoped for rich harvests, but they were poor. And when you brought your harvest home, I blew it away. Why? Because MY House lies in ruins, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, WHILE all of you are busy building your own fine houses. ¹⁰ It's because of you that the heavens withhold the dew and the earth produces no crops. ¹¹ I have called for a drought on your fields and hills - a drought to wither the grain and grapes and olive trees and all your other crops, a drought to starve you and your livestock and to ruin everything you have worked so hard to get." (NLT)

IMPLICATION

⁷ This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. (NIV)

2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

Assurance of Salvation comes first and foremost through the Word of God.

Romans 8:1 (NIV) Therefore, there is now NO Condemnation for those who are IN Christ Jesus...

→ Today's Decisions Determine Who you will BE Tomorrow Alcorn

BLESSINGS OF RIGHT PRIORITIES ~ Haggai 1:12-15 Ettinger

¹² Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the WHOLE remnant of God's people BEGAN to obey the message from the LORD their God. When they heard the words of the prophet Haggai, whom the LORD their God had sent, the people feared the LORD. ¹³ Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, gave the people this message from the LORD: "I AM with you, says the LORD!" ¹⁴ So the LORD sparked the enthusiasm of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the enthusiasm of Jeshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the enthusiasm of the whole remnant of God's people. They began to work on the house of their God, the LORD of Heaven's Armies, ¹⁵ on September 21 of the second year of King Darius's reign. (NLT)

IMPLICATION

Isaiah 41:10 (NLT) Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with MY victorious right hand.

God Reminded His people...

- Refuse to give in to FEAR
- Don not be DISCOURAGED
- Get on with the WORK

Matthew 28:19–20 (NLT) Therefore, go and make disciples of **ALL the nations**, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to OBEY ALL the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; Never will I forsake you."

TAKE AWAY ??

→ PP picture of Jerusalem

→ It was God who first told the Israelites to build the Tabernacle - PP picture

Exodus 25:8 (NIV) Then have them make a sanctuary for ME, and I will dwell among them.

1 Kings 6:11–13 (NIV) The Word of the LORD came to Solomon: ¹² "As for this temple you are building, if you follow my decrees, carry out my regulations and keep all my commands and obey them, I will fulfill through you the promise I gave to David your father. ¹³ And I will live among the Israelites and will not abandon my people Israel."

→ A VISIBLE Sign - Obvious Proof - that God was WITH them

→ Temple a place that Showed God's PRESENCE

2 Corinthians 6:16 (NIV) What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For WE ARE the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."