

# A Renewed Remnant

## Lesson 5

### The Prophecy Of Haggai (Hag. 1:1 – 2:9)

#### Introduction

Sixteen years have passed since the remnant came home to rebuild God's house (**Ezra 4:24**). Sadly, the post-exilic Jews were not engaged in God's work...they had allowed opposition to get the better of them (**Ezra 4:4-5**). To make matters worse, they began placing carnal interests over spiritual. To address this, God sent **Haggai** in **520 B.C.** Along with his partner **Zechariah**, these 2 O.T. servants stirred up the remnant to rebuke their apathy and re-focus them on their God-given work – building His house for worship. Haggai's short book proves preaching that is filled with a "*Thus saith the Lord*" is the only kind of preaching that will stir men's hearts toward obedience of the Lord.

#### Rebuking The Remnant's Indifference (1:1-15)

- 1) What is the "time marker" given in v. 1a? (**Ezra 4:24**)
  
- 2) Who did Jehovah send to the remnant? (v. 1b) Who does he address first, and why would this be significant? (v. 1c)
  
- 3) How did this prophet begin his preaching? (v. 2) Considering **Ezra 1:2 & 3:8-10**, how was the people's attitude "brazen" and openly rebellious?
  
- 4) Indifference was not the remnant's only problem...what else did Haggai rebuke? (vv. 3-4) Write down some N.T. passages that addresses this same problem found among God's people today.
  
- 5) What was the prophet's "statement of rebuke?" (vv. 5, 7) Put this into modern-day words.

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- 6) How had life after captivity been promised for the remnant? (Jer. 31:10-14) Yet, how were things going for them? (vv. 6, 9a, 10-11)
  
- 7) *Thought question*: considering the language of vv. 9a & 11, what are we to conclude re: adversity that might come into our lives?
  
- 8) How did Haggai succinctly state the problem? (v. 9b) What was the *only* solution? (v. 8) How does the last phrase of this verse summarize man's one true obligation? (cp. 2 Cor. 5:1-11)
  
- 9) What was Israel's problem in Deut. 27:15; 28:13-15, 20-24, and 1 Kings 17:1? Consider again v. 10...what's the problem in the days of the remnant? Comparing sins of omission or commission, is there any difference with God?
  
- 10) What happened as a result of Haggai's preaching? (vv. 12-14) What is the promise of God to His people when they serve Him? (v. 13; cp. Mt. 28:20; Jn. 14:23; Heb. 13:5b)
  
- 11) The temple work had been stopped for how long? (v. 15; Ezra 3:8, 4:24) How long did it take Haggai to "stir the remnant" back into action? (vv. 1, 15) Notice the phrase found in vv. 2, 5, 7... what is the *only* kind of preaching that will effectively motivate people to obey the Lord?

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### *Proclaiming The Messiah's House (2:1-9)*

- 12) What is the "time marker" given in v. 1?
  
- 13) What was Haggai's next message to the remnant? (vv. 2-3) How had this already been shown to be an issue with the remnant? (Ezra 3:10-13)
  
- 14) What does Haggai say next to Zerubbabel? (v. 4) What reason does he give Zerubbabel to have hope? (v. 5; cp. Ex. 19:4-6a; 29:42-45)
  
- 15) To offset the remnant's discouragement re: the temple's size [*question 13*], what promise did Jehovah make? (vv. 6-7) What truth is stated in v. 8?
  
- 16) Despite the smaller size, what was promised re: the temple built by the remnant compared to Solomon's former temple? (v. 9)
  
- 17) Heb. 12:18-29 helps us understand this section of Haggai's prophecy to be Messianic. Comment on how the writer of Hebrews provides the correct interpretation of Hag. 2:6-9. Also, consider 1 Cor. 3:9-17 and 1 Pet. 2:4-10 in your answer.