



HAGGAI

PUTTING GOD FIRST

HAGGAI 1

HISTORICAL BOOKS RELATIONSHIP

Samuel Saul David Solomon
UNITED KINGDOM

Israel (Northern Kingdom)

931BC

PROPHETS OF ISRAEL

AMOS 760 753 (Assyrian Exile) 722BC

ELISHA 848 795

HOSEA 755 725

ELIJAH 874 846

JONAH 785 750

Judah (Southern Kingdom)

931BC

PROPHETS OF JUDAH

OBADIAH 850 840

ISAIAH 740 680

JEREMIAH 627 585 (Babylonian Exile)

JOEL 841 834

MICAH 735 700

ZEPHANIAH 640 620

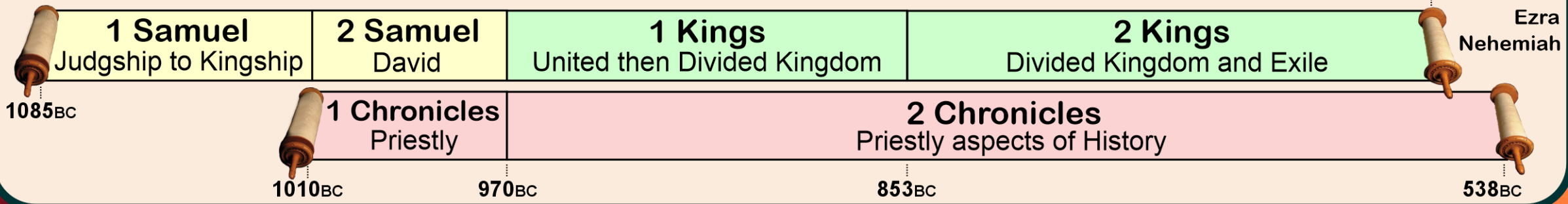
DANIEL 605 536

NAHUM 650 620

HABAKKUK 609 606

EZEKIEL 592 570

POST EXILE
MALACHI HAGGAI ZECHARIAH



POST-EXILE HISTORY

536BC
Began to rebuild the Temple
(Ez.3:1-4:5)



HAGGAI
520 520

ZECHARIAH
520 515

515BC
Temple completed
(Ez.6:15)

MALACHI
460 430

NEHEMIAH
445 415

PERSIAN KINGDOM

70-Year Exile in Babylon
(Je.25:11)

586-536BC

Cyrus
559-530BC



Cyrus permits Israel to return to homeland
(Ez.1:1-4)
537BC

Cambyses II
530-522BC



EZRA 1-6
521 515

Xerxes I
486-465BC

ESTHER
483 473

Artaxerxes I
465-424BC



EZRA 7-10
458 440

BEGAN THE 70TH WEEK PROPHECY
(Da.9:24-27)

WORK ABANDONED

Opposition from neighbors and indifference by the Jews caused the work to be abandoned
(Ez.4:1-24)

530BC 520BC

Cyrus the Persian conquers Babylon
539BC

FIRST RETURN
Under Zerubbabel to build Temple
(49,897 exiles)
536BC

SECOND RETURN
Under Ezra (5,000 exiles)
458BC

THIRD RETURN
Under Nehemiah to build Walls (42,000 exiles)
444BC

WHICH DECREE STARTS THE 70 WEEKS?

Decree of Cyrus 537BC

The decree by Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to Judea and to rebuild the temple (Ez.1:1-4; Is.45:1).

This decree did not include rebuilding the walls nor the city itself.



Decree of Darius I 520BC

This reaffirmed and expedited the order of Cyrus (Ez.6:1-12)

The Jews slowly began to return to their homeland (Ezra 3)

The affluent built luxury homes, the majority of the returned exiles lived in and around the ruined city. The temple remained in ruins (Hg.1:1-11)



Decree of Artaxerxes I 457BC

Artaxerxes I granted a decree to Ezra (Ez.7:12-26) to re-establish the autonomy of Judah.

What was now added is that the decree established a legal system based on the Torah for all the Jews in Judea.

The Persian king made the Mosaic law part of his own law and granted authority to the Jews to govern themselves on the basis of the law of God.



Decree of Artaxerxes I 445BC

Nehemiah then requested and obtained permission by letters from Artaxerxes to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the city (Ne.2:5-8, 17-18).

Nehemiah reported that “the wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire.” (Ne.1:3)

“The street shall be built again, and the wall” (Da.9:25).

“street” (H7339, *rechob*)

“wall” (H2742, *charuts*)



CRITERIA

1. Did it “restore” the street?
2. Did it “restore” the walls?
3. Does it fit the time of Christ?



CASPIAN SEA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

ASSYRIA

BABYLON

EGYPT

Syrian / Arabian Desert

PERSIAN GULF

Aleppo

Jerusalem

Susa

Euphrates

Tigris

HAGGAI OUTLINE



CHAPTER 1

Rebuild God's Temple

Message 1:
 "I am with you!"
 (1:1-15)

Present Condition of Jerusalem's Temple

23 Days

The Challenge to Rebuild the Temple

1:1-6
A Charge to consider #1

1:7-11
A Charge to consider #2

1:12-15
Obedience to the Charges

CHAPTER 2

Encouragement and Hope

Message 2:
 "Be strong!"
 (2:1-9)

Message 3:
 "I will bless you!"
 (2:10-19)

Message 4:
 "I have chosen you!"
 (2:20-23)

Future Glory of God's House

Over 2 Months

Temple Prophecies

Blessing Prophesied

Prophecy to Zerubbabel

2:1-9
Future Glory

2:10-19
God will bless obedience

2:20-23
The Signet Ring

About a Month of Silence

- **TIME:** 520 B.C. The "second year" refers to the beginning of the Persian king Darius' reign (521-486B.C.).
- **PURPOSE STATEMENT:** Haggai wrote to exhort the people and leadership of Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple after their return from exile.

HAGGAI: 4 MESSAGES



○ MESSAGE 1: “I Am With You!” (Haggai 1:1-15)

1:1: The “sixth month” and “first day of the month” (Elul 1) is August 29, 520BC.

1:15: The “twenty-fourth day” and the “sixth month” (Elul 24) is September 21, 520BC.

○ MESSAGE 2: “Be Strong!” (Haggai 2:1-9)

2:1: The “seventh month” and the “twenty-first” day (Tishri 21) is October 17, 520BC.

○ MESSAGE 3: “I Will Bless You!” (Haggai 2:10-19)

2:10: The twenty-fourth day” and the “ninth month” (Kislev 24) is December 18, 520BC.

○ MESSAGE 4: “I Have Chosen You!” (Haggai 2:20-23)

2:20: The “The twenty-fourth day” and same month (Kislev 24) is December 18, 520BC.



HAGGAI INTRODUCTION



- **The primary theme is the rebuilding of God's temple, which had been lying in ruins since its destruction by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C.**
- **The Lord gave Haggai four messages to exhort the people to renew their efforts to build the house of the Lord.**
- **The destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar followed the departure of God's glory (Ek.8-11).**
- **Haggai motivated them by noting that the drought and crop failures were caused by misplaced spiritual priorities (Hg.1:9-11).**

HAGGAI INTRODUCTION

- **Haggai is mentioned briefly in Ezra in conjunction with the prophet Zechariah (Ez.5:1; 6:14).**
- **The book of Haggai begins 16 years after the Temple began to be built (536-520BC).**
- **Haggai was one of the ones who returned to Jerusalem from Babylon under Zerubbabel.**

MESSAGE 1:



“I Am With
You!”

(Haggai 1:1-15)

In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,

HAGGAI 1:1

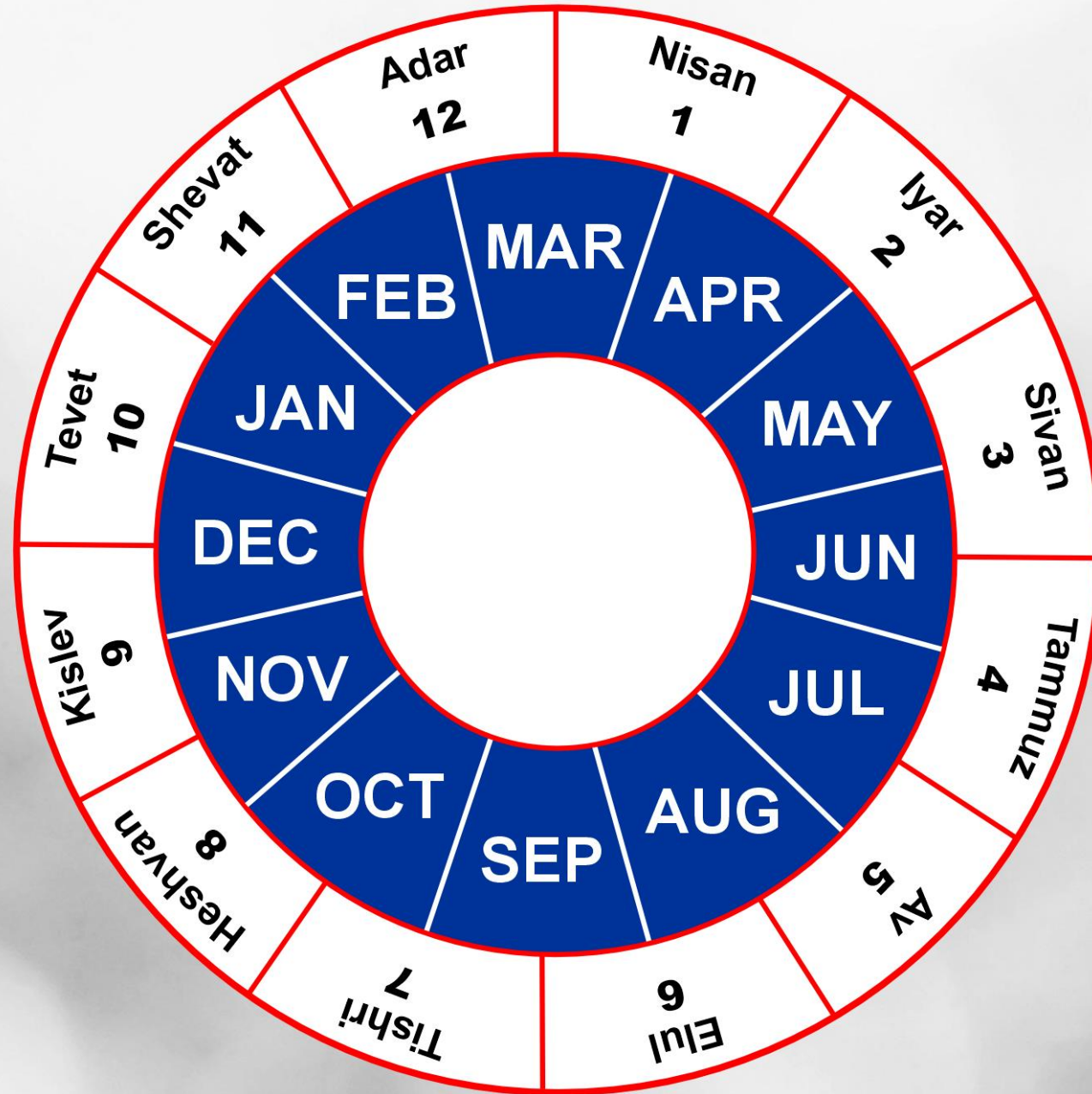






“In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,” (Hg.1:1)

- This “king Darius” is not Darius the Mede (Da.5:31).**
- Zerubbabel was Judah's heir to the throne serving only as governor because they were still under Persian rule.**
- “Joshua” was of the family of Zadok, the family of priests which David put in authority in the Temple. He had gone into Babylonian captivity in 586 B.C.**
- “Jehozadak” was taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar (1Ch.6:15).**







“In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying,” (Hg.1:1)

- The “sixth month” and “first day of the month” (Elul 1) is August 29, 520BC.**
- In the OT historical books writers would usually date events in reference to a king of Judah or Israel.**
- Now the Jews had no king, but were under gentile rule known as the “times of the gentiles” (Lk.21:24).**
- The “times of the gentiles” began when Judah was defeated by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC. This “time” will end when Christ comes again to the earth (Rv.11:2).**




EZRA TIME LINE: REBUILDING THE TEMPLE & WALLS

TEMPLE	Ezra 1	Edict of return (537BC, Cyrus & 520BC, Darius)
	Ezra 2	List of returnees; leading role for Zerubbabel (2:2); return 42,360
	Ezra 3:1-6	Rebuilding and rededicating the altar; Mosaic worship restored
	Ezra 3:7-13	Laying the Temple foundation about 6 months after altar dedication
	Ezra 4	Opposition to rebuilding; work stops for approximately 10 years
	Ezra 5:1–6:15	Encouragement to rebuild from Haggai & Zechariah; work resumes in 520BC
	Ezra 6:16-22	Completed Temple is dedicated and Passover celebrated (Ez.6:15, 515BC)
WALLS	Ezra 7:1–8:36	Second return of the Jews to Jerusalem; 458-457BC (1 year)
	Ezra 9:1–10:44	Restoration of the people

**Thus speaks the LORD of hosts,
saying: 'This people says, "The
time has not come, the time that
the LORD's house should be built."**

HAGGAI 1:2





“Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built."'” (Hg.1:2)

- Haggai begins his message by quoting a popular expression of the people, saying it was not time to build the temple.**
- God's displeasure is noted in His reference to them as “This people” and not “My people.”**
- The opposition were mostly Samaritans (Ez.3:8-13; 4:1-5,24).**
- Too often we make excuses when we ought to be obeying the Lord.**





THE SAMARITANS



- **When the ten tribes were carried away into captivity to Assyria, the king of Assyria sent foreign captives to inhabit Samaria (2Ki.17:24; Ez.4:2-11).**
- **These foreigners intermarried with the Israelite population that was still in and around Samaria.**
- **The Samaritans embraced a religion that was a mixture of Judaism and idolatry (2Ki.17:26-28).**
- **The Samaritans supposed they needed to honor the God of that territory. They got a Jewish priest from Assyria to instruct them in the Jewish religion. They were instructed only from the books of Moses.**



THE SAMARITANS



- **After the Jews returned to Jerusalem from Babylonian captivity to rebuild the Temple and walls the Samaritans attempted to halt their work (Ne.6:1-14).**
- **The Samaritans built a temple for themselves on “Mount Gerizim,” which the Samaritans insisted was designated by Moses as the place where the nation should worship.**
- **Samaria became a place of refuge for all the outlaws of Judea (Js.20:6-7; 21:21). The Samaritans willingly received Jewish criminals and refugees from justice.**
- **They received only the five books of Moses and reject the writings of the prophets.**

**Then the word of the
LORD came by Haggai
the prophet, saying,**

HAGGAI 1:3





“Then the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying,” (Hg.1:3)

- This was the word of the Lord although the people received it as the mouth of the prophet who was His inspired spokesman.**



"Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?"

HAGGAI 1:4





““Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?”” (Hg.1:4)

- Haggai told the people it was wrong for them to live in their nice “paneled houses” while the Temple lay in ruins.**
- This “panel” is often used for walls and ceilings overlaid with cedar which was common in wealthy residences (1Ki.7:3,7; Je.22:14).**
- The root of their reluctance lay ultimately in their selfish indifference to the Lord.**
- Haggai rhetorically asked if it was proper for them to build their own houses but not rebuild His.**



**Now therefore, thus says
the LORD of hosts:
“Consider your ways!**

HAGGAI 1:5



“Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: “Consider your ways!” (Hg.1:5)



- Haggai urged the people to consider the consequences of their indifference (1:5-11).**
- Haggai chides them with their inconsistency because they were interested in their own personal affairs instead of the Lord's. They were building homes for their personal use and allowing the Lord's house to lay waste.**



"You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes."

HAGGAI 1:6





““You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes.”” (Hg.1:6)

- This was divine chastening for disobedience (Lv.26:18-20; Du.28:38-45).**
- They should have put the Lord first.**
- As a means of arousing them to a sense of their real position before God, the prophet calls their attention to some circumstances in their affairs that should have indicated to them that something was wrong.**
- The harder the people worked for themselves, the less they had, because they ignored their spiritual lives.**



**Thus says the LORD
of hosts: "Consider
your ways!**

HAGGAI 1:7





“Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Consider your ways!” (Hg.1:7)

- Calling attention to their unrighteous ways, the prophet proceeds to tell his people what they should do to regain the good will of the Lord.**
- The Lord called the people to reflect thoughtfully on what they were doing (repeated v.5, “consider your ways”).**



Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says the LORD.

HAGGAI 1:8





“Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified,” says the LORD.” (Hg.1:8)

- He urged them to go to the mountains where trees grew abundantly, to cut them down, and to continue rebuilding the temple.**
- The 70 years of exile had given the forest a chance to grow plenty of wood.**
- The need for bringing timber down from the mountains may imply that they had used up for their own houses the lumber purchased for rebuilding the temple a few years before (Ez.3:7).**



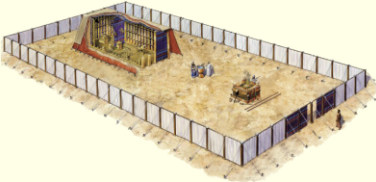

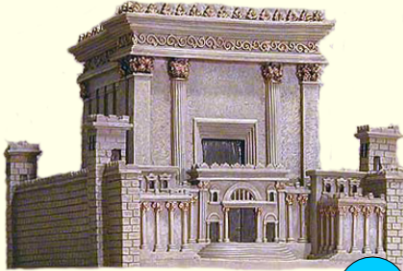
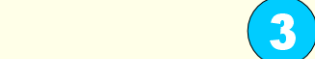
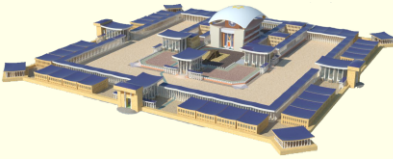


“Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified,” says the LORD.” (Hg.1:8)

- The important thing is not the size or magnificence of the house, but the existence of it since it represents God dwelling among them.**
- It appears that sufficient stone was available from the desolated temple and that they needed only timber for finishing the walls and roof.**
- The completion of the temple would be pleasing to God.**



TEMPLES OVERVIEW

<i>Temples:</i>	Tabernacle in Wilderness	Solomon Temple	Ezra/Nehemiah Temple (aka, Herod's)	70th Week Temple	Millennial Temple
<i>Construction:</i>	1446B.C.	966-959B.C.	535-515B.C. 19-B.C.	Future	Future
<i>Destruction:</i>		586B.C.	70A.D.	End of 70th Week	Beg. of Millennium
<i>Longevity:</i>		373 Years	586 Years	Unknown	1,000 Years+
<i>Directive:</i>	“And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.” (Ex.25:8)	Solomon Charged to Build the Temple (1Ch.22:6-11)	God commanded Cyrus king of Persia to build Him a house in Jerusalem (Ez.1:1-2)	(Mt.24:15; Da.9:27; Mk.13:14; 2Th.2:4; Rv.11:1-2)	Vision of the New Temple (Ek.40-46) (Ek.36:24-37; Is.2:2-4; 11:6-16; 56:1-8; Am.9:11)
<i>Glory of God Visible:</i>	Ex.40:34 GLORY	1Ki.8:10-11 GLORY			Ek.43:1-5 GLORY
<i>Image:</i>		 1	 2	 3	 4

THE GLORY OF THE LORD

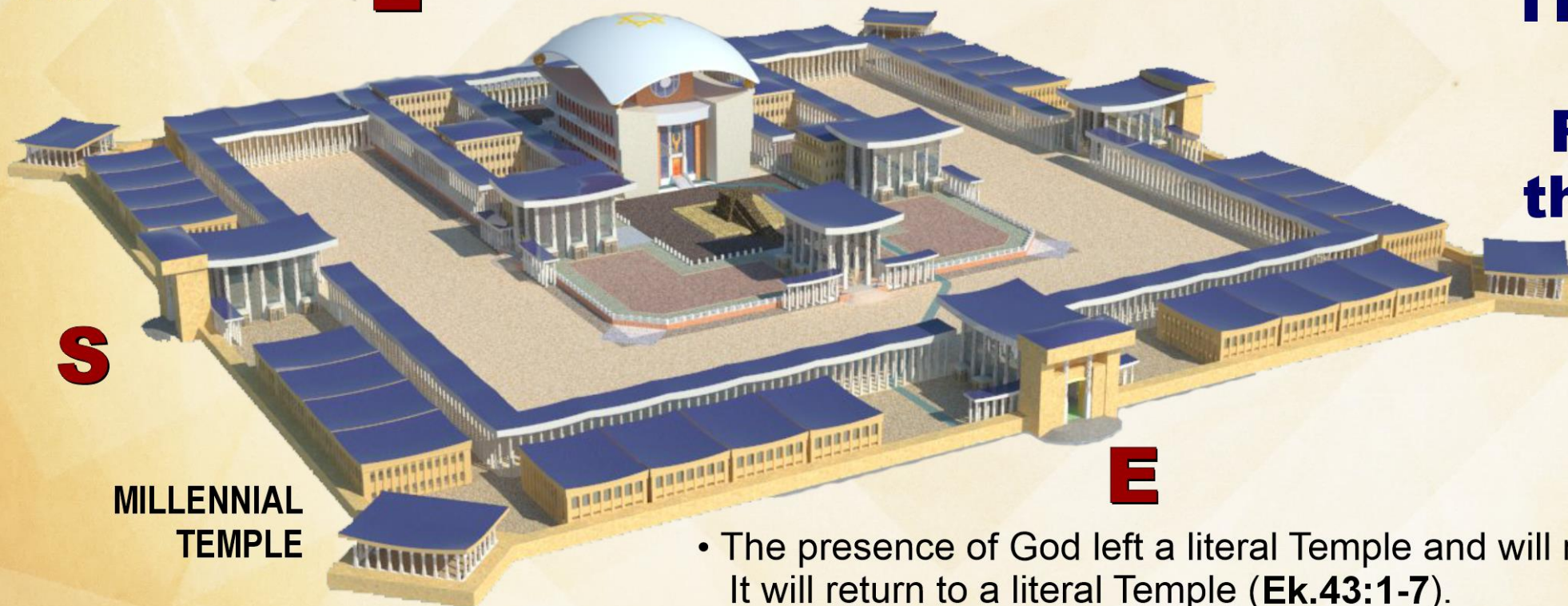
The Glory of the Lord **DEPARTED**
Solomon's Temple moving from
West to East (Ek.9-11)



S

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE

E



S

MILLENNIAL
TEMPLE

E



The Glory of
the Lord
RETURNS
through the
Eastern
Gate
(Ek.43)

- The presence of God left a literal Temple and will return. It will return to a literal Temple (Ek.43:1-7).

"You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?" says the LORD of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.

HAGGAI 1:9





““You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?” says the LORD of hosts. “Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to his own house.” (Hg.1:9)

- Since the Jews were zealous to pursue their own interests, Haggai drew a contrast between the one who eagerly ran to care for “his own house,” while disregarding God's house (“My house”).**
- The people were indeed busy (“runs to his own house”) with building their own house.**
- Like Judah, our priorities involving occupation, family, and God's work are often confused.**
- Other things may rank higher on our list of importance than God. Where is God on your list of priorities?**



**Therefore the heavens above
you withhold the dew, and the
earth withholds its fruit.**



HAGGAI 1:10





“Therefore the heavens above you withhold the dew, and the earth withholds its fruit.” (Hg.1:10)

- Economic catastrophe, resulting from God's withholding of the summer dew, was the price for their disobedience (Du.7:13).**
- Moisture from above and fertility from the earth had been withheld from their crops as a punishment for their neglect of duty.**
- In the dry season (April-October) morning dew was essential to the growth of summer crops. The absence of dew was devastating.**



**For I called for a drought on the land
and the mountains, on the grain and
the new wine and the oil, on
whatever the ground brings forth,
on men and livestock, and on all the
labor of your hands.**

HAGGAI 1:1 1





“For I called for a drought on the land and the mountains, on the grain and the new wine and the oil, on whatever the ground brings forth, on men and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands.” (Hg.1:11)



- Grain, wine, and oil were the primary crops of the land.**
- The cattle also languished because of the absence of spiritual health (Jl.1:18-20).**
- The labor of the people’s hands in the fields would all be for naught.**



**Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel,
and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the
high priest, with all the remnant of the
people, obeyed the voice of the LORD
their God, and the words of Haggai the
prophet, as the LORD their God had sent
him; and the people feared the presence
of the LORD.**

HAGGAI 1:12





“Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him; and the people feared the presence of the LORD.” (Hg.1:12)

- Haggai reported the obedient and reverent attitude of both the leaders and the people.**
- The exhortation of the prophet had the desired effect.**
- Haggai referred to the people as a “remnant” because they were obedient within their covenant relationship to the Lord (Is.10:21).**
- Zerubbabel is the governor. Joshua is the high priest. “All the remnant of the people” were those who returned to the land from captivity.**



Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, spoke the LORD's message to the people, saying, "I am with you, says the LORD."

HAGGAI 1:13





“Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, spoke the LORD's message to the people, saying, “I am with you, says the LORD.”” (Hg.1:13)



- The hostilities from their neighbors and famine from the land, now God responded to their repentance saying He will be with them.**
- Here Haggai conveyed a word of encouragement from the Lord (“I am with you”) to the people as they anticipated rebuilding the temple.**
- This assurance of God’s presence to guide and empower them should have cast out all fear as they rebuild the Temple.**



**So the LORD stirred up the spirit of
Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel,
governor of Judah, and the spirit of
Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high
priest, and the spirit of all the remnant
of the people; and they came and
worked on the house of the LORD of
hosts, their God,**

HAGGAI 1:14





“So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,” (Hg.1:14)

- Haggai's message turned them around and motivated them to pick up their tools and continue the work they had begun years earlier.**
- The Lord energized the leaders and the people through His Word to carry on the work of rebuilding the temple.**
- God had sovereignly moved in the heart of Cyrus sixteen years earlier (2Ch.36:22-23; Ez.1:1-3, 536BC).**
- Notice that the leaders enter enthusiastically into the work.**



**on the twenty-fourth day of
the sixth month, in the second
year of King Darius.**

HAGGAI 1:15





**“on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month,
in the second year of King Darius.” (Hg.1:15)**

- The “twenty-fourth day” and the “sixth month” (Elul 24) is September 21, 520BC.**
- The people began rebuilding the Temple just 23 days after Haggai's first message. Rarely did a prophet's message produce such a quick response.**
- How often do we hear a good message from the Lord and now act upon it.**
- When you hear a good message ask what you should do and make plans to put it into practice.**





MESSAGE 2: “Be Strong!”

(Haggai 2:1-9)



HAGGAI 1