

## **Sermon Notes:**

### **Series: Minor Prophet, Major Message, # 7**

## **Haggai**

In our journey through the minor prophetic books, we are now in the “post exilic” phase. The military invasion and takeover that God had long warned about did in fact happen, probably in the year 597 BC; many Jews were carried into exile in Babylon. They returned to Judah in three groups: in the years 538, 458 and 444 BC.

Haggai was written around 520 BC, a call to kingdom priorities for the first group that returned, and was tasked with rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem.

To understand the context, read Ezra 1-4.

1) Were the Jews right to listen to the king’s orders? Compare Ezra 4:21 to Haggai 1. Does the same problem present itself to us today? If so, describe what that looks like:

2) Haggai 1:4 declares that people of the kingdom need to give priority to kingdom matters (especially worship) over personal pursuits. What is God saying to you about that?

3) God said to his people: “Be strong. I am with you. From this day on I will bless you.” Haggai 1:13, 2:4, 2:19  
How do those words encourage you in your current situation?

4) Haggai 1:14 tells us that the Lord stirred up the spirit of the leaders, and the spirit of the people. Ask the Lord what things need to be “stirred up” in your soul personally, and in us as a church...

5) In Haggai 2:6, 21-22 God said he was going to shake the heavens and the earth, overthrow thrones and shatter powers. Are you praying for God to do that today?