

Haggai 1:1-15 **Time To Build Beit Yahweh – House of Yahweh**

The Command to Build God's House (Ezra 5:1)

1 In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of Yahweh (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,

2 "Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that Beit Yahweh (the Lord's house) should be built.'"

3 Then the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came by Haggai the prophet, saying,

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

5 Now therefore, thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts): "Consider your ways!

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."

7 Thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts): "Consider your ways!

8 Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says Yahweh (the Lord).

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

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

11 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."

The People's Obedience

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 Yahweh Eloheyhm (the Lord their God), and the words of Haggai the prophet, as Yahweh Eloheyhm (the Lord their God) had sent him; and the people feared the presence of Yahweh (the Lord).

13 Then Haggai, malak Yahweh (the Lord's messenger), spoke Yahweh (the Lord's) message to the people, saying, "I am with you, says Yahweh (the Lord)."

14 So Yahweh (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 Beit Yahweh Tsebaovt Eloheyhm (the house of the Lord of hosts, their God),

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

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Facts Revealed:

The Command to Build God's House (Ezra 5:1)

✧ In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of Yahweh (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,

"Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that Beit Yahweh (the Lord's house) should be built.'"" [Haggai 1:1-2]

✧ Haggai was a prophet who came back to Jerusalem among the first to return with Ezra in the reign of Cyrus king of Persia at his decree fulfilling the prophesy of Isaiah over a hundred years before during the reign of Hezekiah king of Judah and Jeremiah's time of seventy years captivity. [Ezra 1:1 – 5:2, Isaiah 39:5 – 45:2, Jeremiah 25:8 – 29:11, 2 Chronicles 36:20-23]

✧ Work on rebuilding of the Temple was stopped during the reign of Ahasuerus King of Persia. [Ezra 4:6-24]

✧ Therefore the returned Jews had fallen into complacency and focused their attention on their own homes.

✧ Then the word of Yahweh (the Lord) came by Haggai the prophet, saying, "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?"

Now therefore, thus says Yahweh Tsebaovt (the Lord of hosts): "Consider your ways! [Haggai 1:3-5]

✧ The purpose of their return from Persia at the decree of Cyrus was to build Beit Yahweh (House of the Lord). [Ezra 1:1-4]

✧ Now that Darius is King of Persia, it is time to complete building the Temple of Yahweh.

✧ Yahweh Himself, through Haggai, called the people to consider their ways.

Troubles had come upon the people because of their complacency [Haggai 1:6-11]

✧ The abundant produce of the land had dwindled away to poverty because they had given up on Temple construction.

✧ Yahweh called them to get back to work on the Temple that He might be glorified in it.

✧ Their lack of continuing blessings from Yahweh is because they were comfortable in their paneled houses while the Temple remains in ruins.

✧ Yahweh had called for drought to get their attention.

The People's Obedience [Haggai 1:12-15]

✧ Yahweh stirred up the spirit of the people and they came and worked on Beit Yahweh Tsebaovt Eloheyhm (the house of the Lord of hosts, their God) on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius King of Persia.