A quill pen with a white shaft and a dark, pointed nib lies horizontally across a piece of aged, yellowed paper. The paper has a textured, fibrous appearance and some darker spots. The quill's feathers are dark and fan out to the right.

THE MAJOR  
MESSAGE

OF THE MINOR  
PROPHETS

*Dr. Gregg Marutzky*

Haggai: House of God

MAJOR  
STUDIES

FROM THE  
minor prophets

*Dr. Gregg Marutzky*

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*Haggai*

*House of God*



# *Author & Background*

- ✦ Date: **520 BC**, Haggai means “**Festival**” or celebrate.
- ✦ Exiles returned to Jerusalem to rebuild God’s Temple in **538 BC**.
- ✦ The people built their own houses instead of the temple.

# The Book of Haggai

<b>Focus</b>	<b>“Build the House of God ... and I will be glorified” (1:8)</b>			
<b>Divisions</b>	<b>Wrong Priorities</b>	<b>Wrong Perspectives</b>	<b>Incomplete Purity</b>	<b>Encouraging Promises</b>
	1	1	2:1	2:9 2:10 2:19 2:20 2:23
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Rebuild the Temple</b>	<b>The Temple Rebuilt</b>		
	<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>Chapter 2</b>		
<b>Place</b>	<b>Remnant of Israel</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>August 29 to December 18, 520 B.C.</b>			
<b>Author</b>	<b>The Prophet Haggai</b>			



**Babylon Falls & Jews allowed to return to the Land**

**Temple Completed**

**Return under Ezra in the 4th Year of Artaxerxes I**

**Return under Nehemiah**

**Haggai**

**Esther**

**Zechariah**

**Cambyses**

**Invasion of Greece**

**Cyrus**

**Darius**

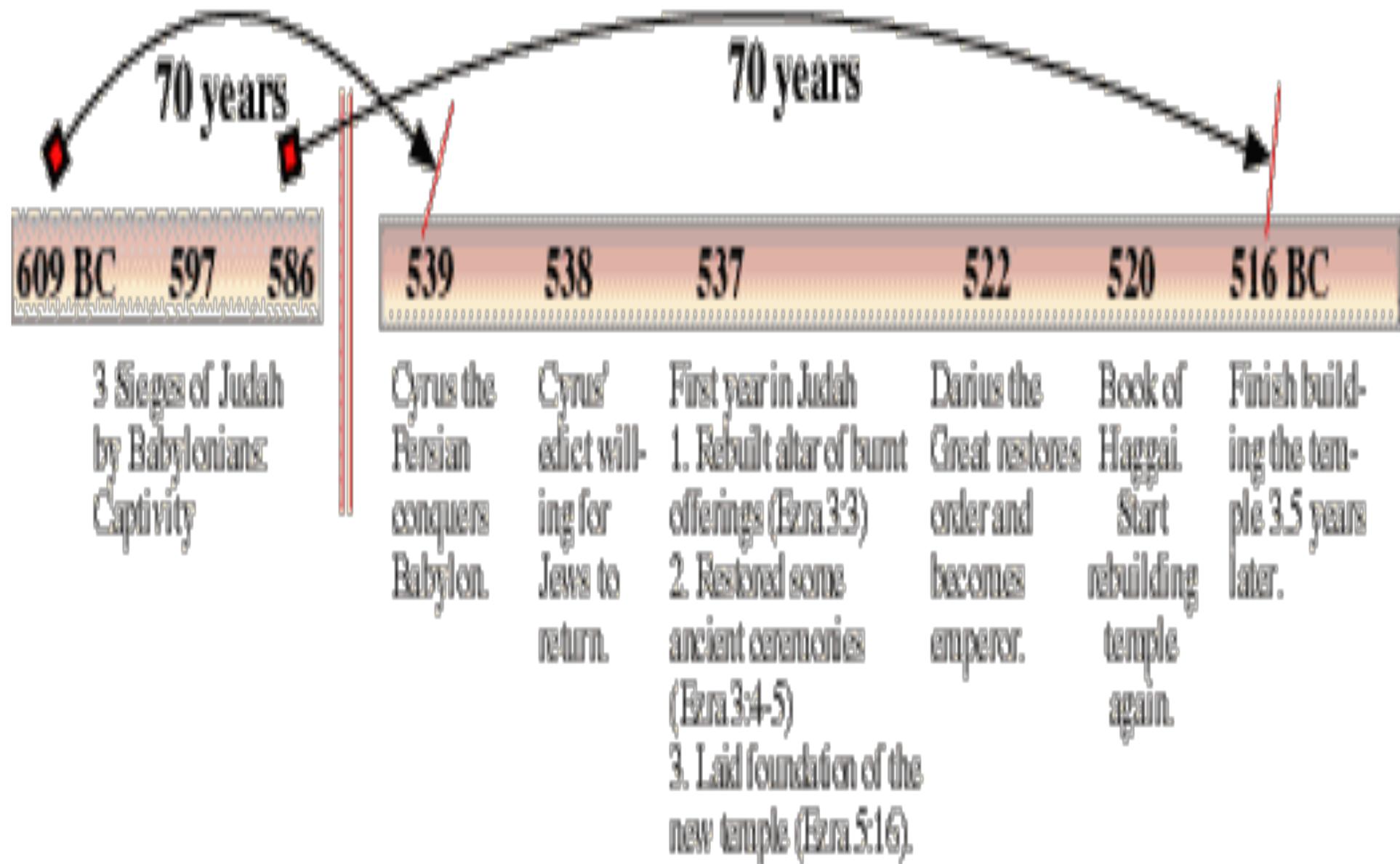
**Hystaspes**

**Xerxes**

**Artaxerxes I**

**KINGS OF PERSIA**

# CHRONOLOGY OF HAGGAI



# *Haggai Outline*

✦ Haggai 1:1-15 **Priority** – Build God's House!

✦ Haggai 2:1-19 **Purity** – God's House Necessary

✦ Haggai 2:20-23 **Promise** – I Will Be With You!

# *Outline of Haggai*

<b>1:1-15</b>	<b>2:1-9</b>	<b>2:10-19</b>	<b>2:20-23</b>
First Sermon	Second Sermon	Third Sermon	Closing words to Zerubbabel
People's Work Prominent	God's Work Prominent		
Question: Twofold Response:	Question: Twofold Response:	Question: Twofold Response:	
People reluctant to restore covenant fellowship	People unconvinced of restoration possibilities	People unfit to take part in restoration	Zerubbabel as symbol of the people
Charge to begin Building	Encouragement to Finish		

# HAGGAI

First Sermon	Second Sermon	Third Sermon	Fourth Sermon
1:1-15	2:1-9	2:10-19	2:20-23
Conviction	Courage	Cleanliness	Consumation
Rebuke Reminder Response	God's Presence God's Peace	Defilement Dependency	Sovereign King Signet king

950 900 850 800 750 700 650 600 550 500 450 400

Egypt

Assyria

Babylon

Persia

N. & S. Kingdoms

Judah Alone

Exile

Post-Exile

△ Solomon dies

△ Israel falls

△ Judah falls

△ Captives return

Haggai

Mene, Mene,  
Tekel, Upharsin  
(Dan. 5)



540 535 530 525 520 515

Ezra 1-6

△ Babylon (Belshazzar) falls to Persia (Cyrus)

△ 1<sup>st</sup> captives return, work on rebuilding temple started

△ King Artaxerxes halts work

King Darius permits work △

Temple completed △

## *Haggai's Prophecy*

**Haggai 1:1** *"In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabal son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest:"*

Word of God came to the prophet, Haggai. He shared God's word with the leadership team of Zerubbabal the governor of Judah and Joshua the high priest.



## *God's Concern*

*(Vs. 2) – “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come for the Lord’s house to be built.’”*

God is always concerned when we do not seek first his Kingdom. *(Matthew 6:33)*

Idolatry can be very subtle. Satan draws our hearts and minds to earthly concerns before heavenly devotion.

# HAGGAI

establishing priorities



## *Haggai's Question*

**(Vs. 3-4)** *“Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains in ruin?”*

God wanted the people to redirect their priorities and the use of their resources. The building up of the body of Christ should be a priority in our lives. God does not want our



# HAGGAI

BUILD THE HOUSE

## *God's Blessing*

**(Vs. 5-6)** *"Give careful thought to your ways."*

Think about how hard life is without God's blessing. *"You plant much but harvest little, you eat but never have enough, drink but are not filled, wear clothes but are not warm. You earn wages but never get caught up."* Haggai is making them think whether God is blessing their lives. **Obedience brings blessings!**

CONSIDER  
YOUR  
WAYS

HAGGAI 1:5



## *God's Discipline*

*(Vs. 7-11) "This is what the Lord Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored," says the Lord. "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the Lord Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house."*

## *God's Discipline*

*(Vs. 7-11) "Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops. I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the olive oil and everything else the ground produces, on people and livestock, and on all the labor of your hands." God wants his house built. He withheld his blessing because the people were building their own houses and neglecting the house of the Lord."*



## *Stirring Up the People*

**(Vs. 12-15)** *“Then Zerubbabal son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the Lord their God had sent him. And the people feared the Lord. Then Haggai, the Lord's messenger, gave this message of the Lord to the people: **“I am with you,”** declares the Lord.”*

## *Stirring Up the People*

**(Vs. 12-15)** *“So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabal son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God, on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month. In the second year of King Darius.”*



# Ancient Assyria (850 B.C.)

200 miles

## *Reverence & Response*

✦ Stirred up Spirit and all began to Work!

✦ The whole remnant obeyed the voice of the Lord.

*(Haggai was the voice of the Lord.)* The reason for obedience – *“And the people feared the Lord.”* The people knew they needed God. They acknowledged the Lord and his power. The people worship in **awe, humility and wonder.**

✦ God’s Response to the obedience: *“I am with you!”* Is God with uncommitted people? God is definitely with a focused, obedient **remnant.**



## *Glorious House*

(Vs. 2:4) God's word to the leaders and the remnant – *“Does this house seem as glorious as the temple of Solomon?” No! But be strong and work! I am with you!”*

(Vs. 6-9) You build the house and I will fill it says the Lord. *“The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house and in this place I will grant peace.”* (Vs. 9)



## *Pure Offerings*

✦ (Vs. 14) The offerings of the people were defiled without the temple. **The priests provided purification of the offerings.**

✦ (Vs. 15-19) Before the foundation of the temple had been laid the people and the land had not been blessed by God.

✦ (Vs. 19b) Because of the purification available through the temple, God promised blessing, **“From this day on I will bless you.”**

# *Place to Purify*

✦ The **house of the Lord** provided the opportunity for the people to offer **sacrifices for purification**. The temple needed to be built so the people could be purified through worship and sacrifices.

✦ **Church is to purify God's people**. Church is the place to be cleansed so God can bless our lives. We come to church to offer sacrifices and worship through the **Lord's Supper for**



## *Sacred Space*

Presence of God in the house of God. God gathers where his people gather. Sacred Space is the only place God will visit the earth. We need to develop a sacred place where we meet God for worship. The church becomes sacred space as we purify ourselves through the Lord's Supper and offer our gifts to God. God is where his Spirit dwells which is in within every Christian. *"Where two or three gather in his name he will be present."* Matthew 18:20 God comes to church where we meet if we are in the Spirit.

An aerial photograph of a city, showing a grid of streets and buildings. A thick black horizontal banner is superimposed across the center of the image. The word "reCONSTRUCTION" is written across the banner. The "re" is in a light blue color, and "CONSTRUCTION" is in a bold, orange-to-yellow gradient. Below the main title, the subtitle "A study of Priorities from the prophet Haggai" is written in a smaller, light blue font.

# reCONSTRUCTION

A study of Priorities from the prophet Haggai

## *Destiny Promised*

(Vs. 20-23) Promise to Zerubbabal to be victorious as God's chosen instrument and "signet ring"; stamp of approval. The signet ring carried the authority of the owner. God conveys his power and authority upon his leaders to fulfill his purpose. **Zerubbabal** was successful in rebuilding the temple. Zerubbabal was in the lineage of Jesus. (Matthew 1:13) Zerubbabel's life effected future generations!

## *Build the Church!*

- ✦ God is with us as we **cleans** people of their sin. A focus of our ministry must be confession and prayer.
- ✦ Provide opportunities for **cleansing** of the soul from guilt of sin. Church is the safe place to come and confess, repent and pray for cleansing. Boast in our weaknesses not our strengths!
- ✦ Practically we need to invest in building the church **spiritually and practically** as though we were investing in our own home.

# *Lesson from Haggai*

- ✦ God Wants a House If We Have a House
- ✦ A Purse With Holes Holds Nothing
- ✦ Sacred Space Purifies God's People
- ✦ If We Build It They Will Come
- ✦ Future Glory Greater Than Former
- ✦ There Is No Place Like Home
- ✦ Home Building Is God's Specialty