

1:13

The Unprofitable Nature of a Godless Life!

Worship God Himself sincerely, reverently, and passionately.

520BC.

CONSIDER YOUR WAYS?

Fruitless Labor: 1:6a
"You have sown much & bring little"

Unfulfilled

Hunger & Thirst: 1:6b-c
"You eat, but do not have enough; you drink, but are not filled with drink"

Futile Defenses: 1:6d

"You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm"

Fleeting Riches: 1:6e-f

"Earn wages to put into a bag with holes"

Obedience & reverence are prerequisites for spiritual blessings.

FIRST MESSAGE: The Exhortation to Rebuild: 1:1-15

1. A Call to Consider:
Rationale for Rebuilding:
(1:1-11):

*The fact of procrastination,
1:1-2;
Questions of Motivation,
1:3-4;
Consider your ways, 1:5-6;
Consider God's Ways,
1:7-11.*

2. The Building Commenced: Stirred up by the Spirit:
(1:12-15).

SECOND MESSAGE: The Promise of God's Personal Presence: 2:1-9

1. A Reminder of the Past (2:1-3)
2. The Presence of the Lord (2:4-5)
3. Outlook for the Future (2:6-9)

THIRD MESSAGE: The Promise of God's Blessing for the Land: 2:10-19

1. Present Ceremonial Defilement:
(2:10-14)
2. Present Judgment and Discipline:
(2:15-19)

FOURTH MESSAGE: The Promise of a Righteous Ruler: 2:20-23

1. Divine Destruction:
(2:20-22):
 2. Divine Deliverance:
(2:23)
*Wives & husbands, 2:6-7
Children & parents, 3:20-21
Slaves & Masters, 3:22-4:1*
- Closing Greeting:
(vv. 12-13)

586 BC

Jerusalem falls to Babylon

539 BC

Cyrus of Persia Conquers Babylon

538BC

Return of Jews to Judea begins

536-534BC

Temple rebuilds begins but stops

520BC

Haggai Preaches, rebuilding resumes & Temple completed in 515 BC.

The purpose of the Book of Haggai (name means "Festival") was to stimulate the lethargic, procrastinating leaders & people of Judah to recognize their spiritual responsibilities and rebuild the temple. His task was to assist the Israelites in seeing in seeing where their hearts and priorities really lie. He urges them to do what they should have done from the start: rebuild the temple with a willing, reverent heart. To these admonitions, he added the promise of God to be with them. Within this promise, the people could return to their first enthusiasm & carry out God's purposes for them. Only then could their worship be joyful and sincere. In sum, these people deluded themselves into thinking that holiness is gained by association with holy things (vv. 11-12) & failed to consider that unholy associations rendered them unclean (1:13-14). Rather, Haggai calls on them to align their will with God's will by turning to God Himself...who is with them (1:13). By choosing to make God the center of their lives, the Lord could Himself remain in their presence.