

Mixed Priorities

Haggai 1:1-15

Introduction

- i. Spirits are _____
- ii. The work _____
- iii. The work _____

Haggai's Audience:

A very different kind of Israel than in previous prophets

- i. Right _____
- ii. Right _____
- iii. Wrong _____

Section A:

- a) Oracle to Zerubbabel and Joshua: The Lord's House is Not Being Built (1:1-2)
 - i. A _____ king in power (v.1)
 - ii. The Lord exposes the people's _____ (v.2)
 - iii. The Lord's House represents the _____ of the Lord with His people
- b) Oracle to the People: Wrong Priorities (1:3-11)
 - i. A wrong priority: Their own _____ (vv.3-4)
 - ii. 1st Consider Your Ways: Descriptive: _____ at your situation (vv.5-6)
 - iii. 2nd Consider Your Ways: Prescriptive: How to ___ your situation (vv.7-8)
 - iv. A wrong priority: The _____ (v.9)
 - v. The Lord's Response to _____ (vv.10-11)

Section B:

Oracle to the Leaders and the Remnant: Right Priorities (1:12-15)

- i. Leaders and the Remnant Respond (v.12)
 - a. with _____
 - b. and _____
- ii. Re-established _____ of the Lord "I am with you" (v.13)
- iii. The Lord's Response to obedience (v.14)
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Small Group Questions

1. How would you characterize Haggai's audience? What does James Montgomery Boice mean when says this is not the Israel we are used to hearing about from the previous prophets? How does knowing that help us relate to Haggai's exhortation?
2. In verse 2, God shows us that the people claimed that the time to rebuild God's house had not yet come. What was their reasoning? Are there times when we misinterpret opposition or inconvenience as meaning it must not be God's timing?
3. What was the importance of God's house? (Exodus 25:8, 1 Kings 8:27) What did the temple represent? By not rebuilding the temple, what were the returned exiles saying? How is the temple relevant and applicable in our day? (1 Cor 3:16-17, Eph 2:19-22, 1 Pet 2:5)
4. Twice the Lord tells the people, "Consider your ways" (1:5, 7). That means to stop long enough in your busy schedule to evaluate your life in the light of God's Word. How can we practically consider our ways on a regular basis to ensure our priorities are in order? What are some problem areas that often get left at the top of our list that should be moved to the bottom? (bible.org- *Putting First Things First*)
5. The peoples' obedience was accompanied by the fear of God (1:12). Some think that the fear of God is an Old Testament concept, and that we are to focus on His love. But the New Testament has plenty of references to fearing God (Matt. 10:28; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 5:21; Col. 3:22; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rev. 14:7; 15:4; 19:5). We know that believers do not need to fear God's final judgment since they are in Christ. But what does 1 Pet. 1:13-21 explain about our obedience and fear of God? (bible.org- *Putting First Things First*)
6. Some people including Christians get very upset when they hear that God brings trouble on the land. Sometimes it is because they do not believe God would ever treat someone that way because He is loving. What would you answer to that? What does 1:9 and 1:11 say specifically as to whether God would do this?
7. Matt 6:33 is a very common verse and most of us have in memorized because of the popular hymn. But do you know verse 34 off the top of your head? Read verse 33 and 34. How does this coincide with God's message "I am with you"?

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