

HAGGAI

Conversational Yahveh Covenant

1:¹The First Day, Sixth Month, Second Year of King Darius

A Message from Yahveh to the Prophet Haggai
for Zerubbabel Ben-Shealtiel, Governor of Judah,
and for Joshua Ben-Jehozadak, the High Priest,

God's Call to Rebuild the Temple

²*"Yahveh says, 'These people are saying this is no time to be rebuilding Yahveh's Temple.'"*

³A message came by Haggai, ⁴*"Is this a time for you to be living in your paneled houses while my Temple lies in ruins?"*

⁵*"Think about how things are going for you!*

⁶*You sow a lot, but reap a little;
you eat, but not enough to satisfy;
you drink, but not enough to quench your thirst;
you put on clothes, but you're not warm;
you put your pay in pouches with holes in them."* Hag 1:1-6

⁷*"Think about what you're doing!*

⁸*Go up into the mountains to get lumber; rebuild the Temple so I can be pleased with it and honored by it. ⁹You look for a good crop, but it comes in poor. When you haul it in, I blow it away. Why? Because my Temple is lying in ruins while your interest lies in your own houses. ¹⁰So the sky hasn't dropped dew, and the ground hasn't produced crops. ¹¹I called for a drought on the fields and hills: the grain, new wine, and olive oil—on what the ground grows; on you, your livestock, and your efforts."*

Obedience to God's Call

¹²So Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the remnant obeyed Haggai, because Yahveh had sent him, and the people respected Yahveh. ¹³Then Haggai said by God's commission, *"I'm with you," Yahveh says.* ¹⁴So Yahveh stirred up Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the remnant to begin work on the Temple ¹⁵**the twenty-fourth day, sixth month, second year of Darius.** Hag 1:7-15

2:¹The Twenty-First Day, Seventh Month

A Message from Yahveh to Haggai

The New Temple's Lesser Beauty

²“Ask Zerubbabel, Joshua/Jeshua the high priest, and the remnant, ³‘How many of you saw this Temple in its former beauty? How does it look to you now? Doesn’t it seem like nothing in comparison? ⁴But resolve to work because I’m with you. ⁵Like I promised when you came out of Egypt, my Spirit’s among you so you needn’t be afraid!’

⁶Soon I’m going to shake the earth and sky one more time, ocean and dry land ⁷as well as the nations. Pilgrims will bring wealth from every country to fill this Temple with beauty. ⁸Silver and gold belong to me. ⁹This Temple’s beauty will be greater than the former, and there’ll be peace here.’” **Hag 2:1-9**

¹⁰The Twenty-Fourth Day, Ninth Month, Second Year of Darius

A Message from Yahveh to Haggai

Blessings for a Defiled People

¹¹“Ask the priests for a ruling: ¹²if someone carries consecrated meat folded up in his cloak and that fold touches bread, cooked food, wine, olive oil, and the like, does the other food become consecrated?’”

“No.”

¹³“If somebody that’s ceremonially unclean from a corpse, touches any of these, will they become unclean?”

“Yes.”

¹⁴Then Haggai said,

“That’s the way it is with this nation. Everything you do and everything you offer is unclean. ¹⁵Think about what was happening before you began to place one stone on another in Yahveh’s Temple: ¹⁶if you went to a grain pile to get 20 measures, there’d only be 10 left. If you went to a wine vat to draw 50 measures, there’d only be 20 left. ¹⁷You and everything you did, I struck with blasting wind, mildew, and hail; but you didn’t come back to me. ¹⁸⁻¹⁹But notice this: The seed is still in the granary; the grapevines, fig trees, pomegranates, and olive trees have not started to bear—but from **this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month** on, when you’ve begun laying the foundation for the Temple—I’ll be blessing you.”

Hag 2:10-19

²⁰The Same Day: Twenty-Fourth Day of the Month

A Second Message from Yahveh to Haggai

Zerubbabel as the LORD's Signet Ring

²¹“Tell Zerubbabel, ‘I’m going to shake earth and sky, ²²overthrow the thrones of kingdoms, destroy powerful nations, defeat chariots and riders; every horse and rider will fall by the sword. ²³Then I’ll make you my signet ring because I’ve chosen you, Zerubbabel Ben-Shealtiel.’

I, Yahveh of hosts, have spoken.”

Hag 2:20-23

Version by Virgil Warren: christir.org