

# HAGGAI

## Conversational Version

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

A Message from the LORD by the Prophet Haggai  
for Zerubbabel Son of Shealtiel, Governor of Judah,  
and for Joshua Son of Jehozadak, the High Priest,

### God's Call to Rebuild the Temple

**2**“*The LORD says, ‘These people are saying this is no time to be rebuilding the LORD’s Temple.’”*

**3**A 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.* **9***You 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.* **10***So the sky hasn’t dropped dew, and the ground hasn’t produced crops.* **11***I 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

**12**So Zerubbabel, Joshua/Jeshua, and the remnant obeyed Haggai because the LORD had sent him, and the people respected the LORD. **13**Then Haggai said by God’s commission, “*I’m with you,’ the LORD says.*” **14**So the LORD 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**

**2:1**The Twenty-First Day, Seventh Month

A Message from the LORD by Haggai

## The New Temple's Lesser Beauty

<sup>2</sup>“Ask Zerubbabel, Joshua/Jeshua the high priest, and the remnant, <sup>3</sup>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? <sup>4</sup>But resolve to work because I'm with you. <sup>5</sup>Like I promised when you came out of Egypt, my Spirit's among you so you needn't be afraid!”

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

Hag 2:1-9

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

A Message from the LORD to Haggai

### Blessings for a Defiled People

<sup>11</sup>“Ask the priests for a ruling: <sup>12</sup>if 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.”

<sup>13</sup>“If somebody that's ceremonially unclean from a corpse, touches any of these, will they become unclean?””

“Yes.”

<sup>14</sup>Then Haggai said,

“That's the way it is with this nation. Everything you do and everything you offer is unclean. <sup>15</sup>Think about what was happening before you began to place one stone on another in the LORD's Temple: <sup>16</sup>if 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. <sup>17</sup>You and everything you did, I struck with blasting wind, mildew, and hail; but you didn't come back to me. <sup>18-19</sup>But 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

<sup>20</sup> The Same Day: **Twenty-Fourth Day of the Month**

A Second Message from the LORD to Haggai

**Zerubbabel as the LORD's Signet Ring**

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

I, the LORD of hosts, have spoken.”

**Hag 2:20-23**

Version by Virgil Warren: christir.org