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Biblica Study Notes (Book Intros)

Haggai

What is the book of Haggai?

- Haggai is a book of Israel's prophets. It's a collection of messages from God that Haggai spoke.
- The messages were about the land of Judah when the Persian government was in control. They were part of the story told in Ezra chapters 1 through 6. The messages were also promises about events that happened after that time.
- Haggai spoke these messages in the year 520 BC. That was the second year that Darius was king of Persia.
- It's thought that Haggai wrote down these messages.
- New Testament writers understood that some of Haggai's prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus' life and work.

Who was this book written for?

- For Zerubbabel, Joshua and Jews who had returned to Judah. They had lived in exile in Babylon for many years.

Why was Haggai written?

- To remind the Jews to be faithful to the Mount Sinai covenant after the exile.
- To record the messages that helped the Jews finish building the temple.
- To encourage the Jews because God remained faithful to his covenant with David.

Main ideas

- God remained faithful to the Mount Sinai covenant and to his covenant with David. He remained faithful to these covenants after the time of exile.
- Being faithful to the Mount Sinai covenant led to the covenant blessings. Not being faithful led to the covenant curses.
- God wanted the Jews to rebuild the temple. It was part of God's plan to bless all nations.
- God's Spirit gives people the ability to obey God faithfully.

Outline

Messages about being faithful to the Mount Sinai covenant (1:1 – 2:19).

Message of hope about God's covenant with David (2:20–23).