

# HAGGAI

## A THEOLOGY OF STUFF

September 15, 2013 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## PART 1: CONSIDER YOUR WAYS

HAGGAI 1:1-15

*Historical Background (v. 1; Ezra 1:1-4:5; 4:24-5:1)*

***Consider Your Ways*** (v. 2-11)

*The People Repent (v. 12)*

*The Lord Stirs Up Their Spirit and the Work Begins (v. 13-15)*

## 1:10 HOMEWORK

Read Haggai 1:1-15

1. God calls the Israelites "This people" in verse 2. God typically refers to them as "My people". What is the significance in this?

2. Israel's people gave the excuse that "the time has not come that the Lord's house should be built." Do you ever find yourself delaying obedience to God? Is it out of fear? Stubbornness? Laziness? Pride?

3. The real reason "the time had not yet come" was due to the fact that they were busy placing their priorities on accomplishing their own desires through spending on living a decadent lifestyle. Are there any plans or desires God has for you that your own spending is preventing from happening? What needs aren't being met due to our spending habits? How closely do we resemble the Israelites in this passage?

4. Verse six lists five results of the famine God caused in which He withheld His blessings due to their lack of Obedience in building the temple. They weren't concerned for God's house, which in turn caused them more distress and despair. Have you ever gone through trials that could have been avoided? Is God trying to get your attention right now in the midst of a trial you are in? How can we discern the difference between trials resulting from God's discipline and trials that are designed to build character and make us more like Jesus?

5. Finally, in verse 12 the people "obeyed the voice of the Lord". They repented and turned from their ways. What is God asking you to do that you've been neglecting? Will you obey the voice of the Lord in this?

6. It is God who "stirred up the spirit" of the leaders and people of Israel. But this wasn't until after they responded in obedience. It was only then that God gave them the power and energy to complete the task at hand. Are you tired, and don't feel like you have the energy to go on sometimes? What if we simply obeyed first and let God give us the energy to accomplish the task? Have you ever experienced the energizing power of God and the Holy Spirit to do His will?