

Haggai

Ezra 5:1 through Ezra 5:3 ¹Then the prophet Haggai and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophets, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them. ²So Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of [£]Jozadak rose up and began to build the house of God which is in Jerusalem; and the prophets of God were with them, helping them.

³At the same time Tattenai the governor of the region beyond the [£]River and Shethar-Boznai and their companions came to them and spoke thus to them: “Who has commanded you to build this temple and finish this wall?”

The people have come back to build the Temple but are discouraged. It has been hard so they have decided that it was not God’s will for them to do it.

v.2-4 points out their self centered attitude

v.6 God isn’t blessing because of their heart
- pray of Jabez phenomena

v.7-8 God tells them 3 things- sometimes we make things much more difficult than they are
- Go up the mountains
- bring wood
- build the temple
- we get hung up on programs and methods and seminars and conferences- which are all just tools to do the simple things God has called us to do

v.12 we see our key characters here

v.13 key is “I am with you”

v.14 the Lord stirred up their spirits
- Zerubbabel
- Joshua
- the people

They worked- God calls us to work, not sit back and wait

Chapter 2

v. 4 Be strong- to Zerubbabel- civil leader; Joshua- religious leader; all the people

Eph. 6:10 through Eph. 6:11 ¹⁰Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

1 Cor. 16:13 through 1 Cor. 16:15 ¹³Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. ¹⁴Let all that you do be done with love.

2 Cor. 10:4 through 2 Cor. 10:7 ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. ⁷Do you look at things according to the outward appearance? If anyone is convinced in himself that he is Christ's, let him again consider this in himself, that just as he is Christ's, even [£]so we are Christ's.

Work

Eph. 2:10 ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

I am with you

v.10-14 unholy because of contact with the world

v.15-17 “ I sent bad things so you would repent

v.18 consider now- think about this- you've turned to me and I will bless you

v.20 message delivered on December 24, 520 BC prophesy of end times

v.23 I will take you, I will make you a signet ring

Let's look at these two characters in Zechariah