**A Call to Rebuild the Temple**

Whole Bible Series

Sermon 33: Haggai

McDonald Bible Methodist

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October 25, 2020

**SERMON NOTES**

*Big Idea: God’s Priorities → God’s Blessing*

1. **The Folly of a Self-Centered Life** (ch. 1)

*Is the church filled with people’s old furniture?*

* 1. It prioritizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pursuits over God’s Kingdom (1:4)
  2. It does not produce \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1:5-11)
  3. It displays a lack of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord (1:12)

1. **The Glory of the New Temple** (ch. 2)
   1. Comparing God’s working with our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (2:3)
      * The greatest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are forthcoming (2:4-9; 20-23)

*The basis for hope: “I am with you!” (1:13, 2:4)*

* 1. Half-commitment produces unacceptable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (2:14)
     + Full commitment \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s blessing (2:19)

*Jesus moment (2:20-23): Having overthrown the kingdoms of the world, God will give the signet ring to His “chosen servant.”*

Application from Zephaniah

1. We must evaluate whether we are investing in this life or the coming kingdom.
2. We cannot allow our recollections of past blessing to \_\_\_\_\_\_ us of our eager anticipation.
3. Be a faithful servant, because a day of great blessing is coming.

**Answers:** personal, **satisfaction,** fear, **expectations,** blessings, **results,** yields, **rob**

**Questions for Small Groups or Individual Study**

**Bible study:** Read Haggai 1:3-11, noting the areas of lack the people experienced.

1. *According to this passage, why did God curse these people with drought? What lesson did He teach them about looking out for themselves?*
2. What are evidences that we are prioritizing our own interests over what God wants to do in and through us?
3. Read 1:12. How does self-centeredness evidence a lack of the fear of the Lord?
4. Review 2:3-9. What are we missing when we pine for the days of old? Notice the twice-repeated promise, “I am with you.” How does that change our perspective?
5. Haggai told the priests that when the people worked with unclean hands, the work they offered was unclean. But the Lord declared his blessing on them when they prioritized Him and lived lives of holiness. How does that impact how we work for God?

**Prayer from Haggai**

“God, thank you that, just like you plan to replace the broken old temple with something far more glorious, you have redeemed my life from the pit and made me your child. Help me to lay aside my self-centered pursuits in the area of (*your area*), especially when they take away from my relationship with and service to you.