



DATE: 29 May 2024 WED

TEXT: **Haggai 1:5-8**

TITLE: **:: Like Haggai**

Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts;
Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:5

REVIEW

Think like David: God's created works

Think like Asaph: God's previous actions

Think like John: God's marvelous love

INTRODUCTION

- **HAGGAI** was a prophet who returned to Israel after the **BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY** (Ezra, Nehemiah)
 - reconstruction on the Temple had begun, but it stopped under Cyrus the Great
 - sixteen years passed with no work done on the foundation that had been laid
- because the people had gotten discouraged, Haggai was given the task of encouraging the people to start the project again

verse 4 isn't it time to fix this???

humanly speaking, we tend to grow accustomed to whatever situation in which we find ourselves living

verse 6 shows us the **FUTILITY** of living like this

NOTE: as we get into this study, consider that there are two types of people in the world you should avoid:

the man who never makes a mistake,
because he is not honest

the man who makes the same mistakes repeatedly,
because he is not learning

verse 5 Consider your ways

consider is a compound word in Hebrew
"to put...your understanding"

1 Corinthians 11:28

But let a man examine himself...

this is the difficult part...being brutally honest
with ourselves before God

the tendency when we **MESS UP** is usually to:

BLOW UP...we get mad or emotional and
become blinded to what caused the mistake
in the first place

Proverbs 19:3

The foolishness of man perverteth his way:
and his heart fretteth against the LORD.

COVER UP...the easiest thing to do is to bury
the mistake and hope nobody ever finds
out...or we blame somebody else for our
mistakes

Proverbs 28:13

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but
whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have
mercy.

BACK UP...out of fear of making more
mistakes, we disengage, hold folks at arm's
length and stop doing anything at all

Proverbs 24:30-34 the field of the slothful...

all of these seem like viable options at the time,
but what really needs to happen is for us to:

WAKE UP...acknowledge the mistake and
consider the consequences of our actions

SHAPE UP...having reached the fork in the
road, we choose the right path and grow
closer to the Lord and more mature in our
walk with Him

NOTE: **verse 8** Go up to the mountain...

gain a different perspective, get a different view

1. CONSIDER YOUR PRETEXT

= a fancy word for excuse

verse 2 for the remnant that had returned, the
excuse was, "the time isn't right"

notice that it was God speaking...He always
knows what is really in our hearts

Psalm 44:21

Shall not God search this out? For he
knoweth the secrets of the heart.

verse 6 the economy was bad...

verses 9-11 the weather didn't cooperate

**EXCUSES ARE TOOLS OF INCOMPETENCE
USED TO BUILD MONUMENTS
OF NOTHINGNESS**

in other words, when you want to do something,
any excuse will do

Proverbs 20:4

The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

Proverbs 22:13

The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.

Proverbs 26:13

The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets.

2. CONSIDER YOUR PRIORITIES

verse 4 the Israelites somehow had the resources to panel their homes, etc.

ceiled = paneling; wainscoting

even though the economy was bad...

even though the weather wasn't right...

who, or what, comes first in your life?

yourself? your family? your job?

what about the things of God???

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

John 12:24-26

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honor.

3. CONSIDER YOUR PRACTICE

throughout sixteen years, the Israelites managed to go through the motions of religion...even without a Temple

sacrifices were offered, prayers were prayed

perhaps even tithes and offerings given

but the unfinished Temple stood as evidence of how they really felt about God

what do your actions say???

Malachi 1:6-8

A son honoreth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible. And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts.

after 400 years, this would still be a problem...

Matthew 15:8

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

NOTE: verses 12-14 Then...the people obeyed the voice of the LORD their God...and they came did work in the house of the LORD...

2:1 and within a month, they were discouraged again



THINK reading list:

Psalm 51, 139 Luke 18:9-14 1 John 1:7-2:11



THINK playlist:

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

What Salvation's Done For Me Booth Brothers