



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Scripture: Haggai

TITLE: Haggai – Get Your Priorities Right

My wife is a baker and cake decorator. She has a system for everything. On occasion, I want to help her out. I'm a cook and a BBQer. So I know my way around the kitchen. But she reminds me that the ingredients are very important, but the order of ingredients is just as important. You have to prioritize what you do and when you do it. Otherwise, your cake is a very ugly paperweight.

The people of God are constantly struggling with the right ingredients of life and getting them in the right order. Our priorities get all out of whack, and it impacts our lives and our relationship with God. This is why we should study the Book of Haggai.

The Book of Haggai was written in 520 B.C. It was written by Haggai to the people of Jerusalem. The Babylonian exile is done with, and the Jews are back in Jerusalem. The problem is it's been sixteen years since they began rebuilding the temple, and it's still not done. The right objective began, but life got in the way. God is using the prophet Haggai to call His people to get their priorities right.

People are driven to succeed and accomplish, but far too often, we get distracted with good things but not the best things. Success and failure sideline us. We start off on the right path, but we lose our way. We strive for the good in life when the best, that is, Jesus Christ, is right there waiting for us to come back to Him.

Speaking of Jesus, is He found in the Book of Haggai? He sure is. Listen to Haggai 2:7-9 (CSB).

“I will shake all the nations so that the treasures of all the nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,” says the LORD of Armies. “The silver and gold belong to me”—this is the declaration of the LORD of Armies. “The final glory of this house will be greater than the first,” says the LORD of Armies. “I will provide peace in this place”—this is the declaration of the LORD of Armies.”

Jesus Christ is the treasure of all the nations. He is the Lord of Armies. He is the fulfillment of the promise that the final glory will fill the temple as realized in the life of Christ in Jerusalem.

So what's the main thing from Haggai? It's priorities. We need to get our priorities right. Haggai 1:7-9 says,

“The LORD of Armies says this: ‘Think carefully about your ways. Go up into the hills, bring down lumber, and build the house; and I will be pleased with it and be glorified,’ says the LORD. ‘You expected much, but then it amounted to little. When you brought the harvest to

your house, I ruined it. Why?' This is the declaration of the LORD of Armies. 'Because my house still lies in ruins, while each of you is busy with his own house.'"

What has your attention? What has your resources? What has your time, treasure, and talents? Is it Jesus? Is it building His Kingdom? Or is it your job, home, hobby, or escape? Jesus deserves and demands to be the first place in your life. We were saved on purpose and for a purpose, so let's live like it.

Trust me, friend. When we get our priorities right, we will win the day!