

# HAGGAI : Kingdom Perspective

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## Study 2: Be Strong, Believe, and Build

**READ** Haggai 2:1-9 and **LISTEN** to the [sermon](#) by Pastor Craig.

Not long after God's people started to rebuild the temple, another enemy attacked them, halting the process. This time the enemy was from within: the enemy of discouragement. God sends an important and timely message, through His prophet Haggai, to encourage His people to press on in their kingdom work, knowing that they are building far more than they can possibly imagine.

**Big idea:** God calls His church to persevere in their service for the Lord, knowing that the Lord is with us and will accomplish His work through us.

### Questions:

1. How long had the work been going before the Lord brought another message (see 1:15 and 2:1)? What do you think caused the remnant to get discouraged and stop building within such a short time (v. 3)?

**Going Deeper:** What festal activities occurred during 1:15 and 2:1 (see Lev 23:24-25, 26-27; 33-36)? Do you think this had any bearing on their discouragement?

2. How can looking back on God's prior work both serve as a positive and a negative in your personal life and in the life of a church?

3. In vv. 4-5, how did the Lord encourage the remnant to press on and persevere in the rebuilding of the temple?
4. What is the difference between God's Spirit being with the remnant under the old covenant, and God's Spirit being with the believer under the new covenant (John 14:17; Acts 2:4)? How does knowing this encourage you in your obedience to God and your work for Him?
5. Historically, the second temple did not have the same magnificence Solomon's temple had. Therefore, what is the Lord saying by inferring that the former temple will be a pale comparison with the latter (vv. 6-9)? What do you think the glory is that the Lord refers to in v. 7 & 9 (see John 1:14; 2 Cor 3:7-11)?
6. How does knowing what the temple will be in the future inspire the remnant to build in the present? How does this encourage you in your ministry?
7. Since Christ must be the focal point of all life and ministry, how much time do you spend praying and focusing on establishing Christ as your center point in contrast to caring about outward appearances (whether church or personal)?

### STOP AND PRAY:

**Confess:** *your tendency toward discouragement in your work for the Lord*

**Praise:** *the Lord for His understanding of our discouragements and tender promises to be with us in the midst of our struggles and difficulties*

**Pray:** *that you might trust in God's presence to give you strength and remove fear*