

QT Questions—for Haggai

(Here's a short introduction to the book of Haggai from my Study Bibles.)

- The Jews who returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile began rebuilding the temple around 537 BC, but because of opposition they became discouraged and stopped. When Haggai's prophetic career began in 520 BC, he challenged their decision to stop building God's house while they continued building houses for themselves. Haggai aimed to convince the people and their leaders to finish the temple—to make sacrifices to obey God instead of focusing entirely on their own needs.
- Haggai is about people making God's priorities their priorities—a message that applies as much to our lives today as it did in the days of Zerubbabel and Joshua. The book affirms that, if the people of God devote themselves to His work, He will faithfully finish it.

Hag 1 (6/4/25)

(*Please answer the questions as best as you can.)

1. What were the people thinking and what did God want His people to do and why; what did the people do with God's command and why; what do you learn?
- On the opening and closing verses of this chapter we are given two dates, the first day of the sixth month, and on the twenty-fourth day of the six month (vv. 1, 15). On the first day of the month, the people were not interested in rebuilding the Lord's house, but by the 24th, "they came and began to work on the house of the Lord Almighty, their God" (v. 14). This change of heart and behavior came as the prophet Haggai spoke God's word to His people. And hearing God's word for them, they reprioritized their lives, and not just a few people, but all the people who heard, put their lives as second, because God's word, God's way, and God's house came first for them. Do we hear God's word, and do we reprioritize our lives in light of His word? Let's sincerely pray that we will, that God's word has the first place in our lives, even over building our lives, even over our life's savings, even over our wellbeing, even over everything in our lives, everything.

Hag 2 (6/5/25)

(*Please answer the questions as best as you can.)

1. What was God's message on 7/21/2nd year of Darius and why would He say that; what did God want His people to understand on 9/24/2nd year; what do you learn?
- In v. 17, we read, "I struck all the work of your hands with blight, mildew and hail, yet you did not return to Me," declares the Lord." Normally, with us humans, when bad things happen, we usually run away from them. We would rather forget and not deal with them. But, our God teaches us that is not what we should do. He wants us to stay and learn why the bad things are happening. And most of all, through the bad things learn that what we have been doing is wrong, and thus, we need to stop it, and return to our God and His ways in our lives. In other words, God is using our bad things to turn us away from ourselves and to turn to Him. In fact, both the good and bad things of life should always bless us to turn away from ourselves and the world, and to turn to our God and return to Him and His ways. Let's earnestly and humbly pray that this truth and this turning will truly happen in us and in our love ones. Yes, let's pray for this sincerely, because it's not normal, but it's God's way. Let's follow our God in all things.