

May 2017

McInteer Sermon Outlines - Haggai

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A SUCCESSFUL PREACHER

Haggai 1

I. I love Haggai.

A. No doubt about date.

B. No doubt about purpose.

C. Meet main actors.

1. Haggai old man having seen old temple.

2. Rouses people from lethargy.

3. Success in 3 mo.

II. The Man.

A. Know little.

B. Contemporary with Zechariah.

C. Man of the Hour.

D. "H the prophet" all we know.

E. Festive name - born on a feast day.

F. Not Haggai (Gen. 46:16).

III. Dates

A. Know with accuracy.

B. 520 BC - 4 mo. period of the fall - Aug.-Sept.

IV. Purpose.

A. Reestablish temple construction.

1. 16 yr. neglected.

2. Rouse to activity.

3. Temple means God's presence.

B. Picked festive time to do it.

V. Style.

A. Dull? "Sec. working on a budget." "Colorless."

B. Plain

C. 5X Consider your ways. 4 messages.

Each intro "came the word of the Lord"

VI. Message.

- A. Challenged leaders & held them responsible.
 - 1. Yet love them.
 - 2. Successful ending - signet.
- B. Challenged excuses.
- C. Stir up spirit - inside.
- D. Challenged obstacles.
 - 1. Critics.
 - 2. Not as good as 1st bldg.
 - 3. Time not right.
 - 4. Priority off.
 - 5. No need for stones - plenty in ruins.
 - 6. Delay of Colonist - of all people.
- E. Summons to self exam.
- F. Many interpretations of blow.

VII. What does it say to me?

- A. Don't accept status quo.
- B. Scarcity due to God not 1st.
- C. No dubiety of utterance - from God.
- D. Task harder than I thought.
- E. Easy to settle into rut of comfort.
- F. Bay with holes deliberate choice.
- G. Can be a happy preacher.
- H. Need single minded commitment.
- I. Are you an instrument of God.
- J. Need inner holiness.
- K. Believe in bright future.
- L. Issue is priority.
- M. What crowds God out of our lives.

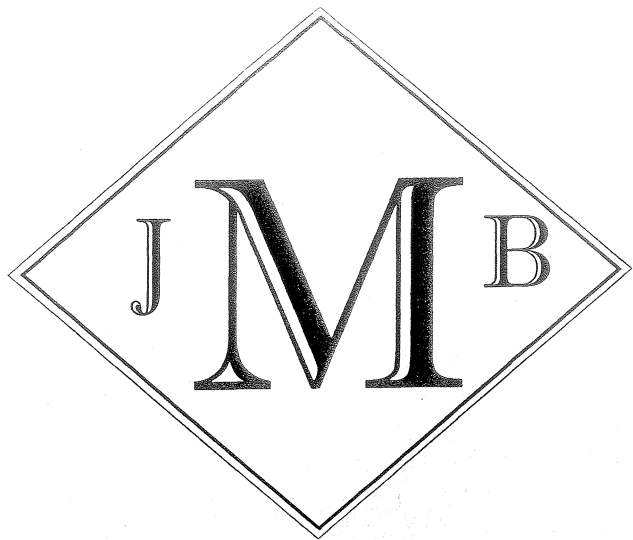
VIII. Success.

A. 3 weeks! More than 30 years.

B. Ez. 5:2 Prophets helped.

C. Lord with us.

Matt. 28:20



HAGGAI, PREACH AGAIN!

Haggai 1:1-7

I. Human nature changes little--consider the returnees from Babylon.

A. It's post captivity time.

B. 520 BC

1. Judah subservient to an alien power.
2. Altar set up 1st on return.

Ezra 3:10 *Leid fd -- set priest in order -*

3. Opposition came & they quit--16 yrs. ago.

C. Days of Darius

1. One of Cyrus' first actions was to respect the religion of his subjected people.
2. Cyrus died 530 BC in battle.
3. Son Cambyses took over--marched to Israel to fight Egypt.
4. 522 BC Cambyses died.
5. Darius, one of his officers, took the throne.

D. Haggai makes his appearance.

1. Know nothing of him except Ezra 5:1, 6:14 plus what he writes about himself.

2. His message:

- a) Brief (Anyone a qt?) #1
- b) To the point
- c) From God

3. Knew his purpose

- a) People needed hope, encouragement, exhortation.
- b) He needed to arouse them to action. (Holland--Don't Delay) #2

- c) Found people resigned to status quo.
 - d) They were comfortable in their lethargy.
 - e) Rekindle faith so they'd rebuild the temple.
4. In 2 months he got it done; work started in 23 days.
 5. Sermon successful.

II. How In The World Did He Do It?

A. Above all was the Lord of hosts & he so recognized.

1. Almighty God same as Lord of hosts.
2. Remember whatever man needs all resources of Heaven & Earth are at God's command.
3. God will keep his promises.
4. God is the commander in chief & we are responsible to Him.

B. He had a correct analysis of the situation.

v-2 "This people say the time is not come"

- (1860)
Ed Spencer
393-279
M
Canceled
Gratitude
diction.
1. "This"--not my people--God's people don't talk like that. Remember when parents would ask "whose boy is this--doesn't sound like mine." Sin estranges. *Alcohol after both*
 2. Time is not come. *close pores*
 3.
 - a) People lost their vision. (Gratitude story) #3
 - b) They had no immediate goal.
 - c) Because:
 - (1) Fierce opposition of Samaritans.
 - (2) Negative reaction of older priests.

Wept when they saw temple³.

- (3) Asking self "is the end-product worth it all?"
- (4) Lacked vital trust in God.
- (5) Accepted growing lukewarmness. (Elwell)
- 4. They were satisfied with the obstacles placed in their way.
- 5. Only said "Not yet"--plan to sometime I guess.
- 6. Clip on patient & X-rays. #4

C. Does this sound like today?

- 1. Does the fact we have opposition excuse us from effort? Does it lessen our responsibility to God-- Daniel's open windows!
- 2. Have we resigned ourselves to being comfortable in no growth?
- 3. Does not passivity demoralize?
- 4. What skirt is ours to hide behind-- no time, not yet?
- 5. God's providence cloak for their own supineness?
- 6. Do we plead guilty to inactivity?
- 7. What does this do to the heart of God?
- 8. Do we think we are too small to do the job?
- 9. Commie story. #5 *Woods of World Applg.*
- 10. Rich. Armour #6

D. Haggai asked for an honest comparison.

- v-4 "Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in"
- 1. Ceiled houses.
 - a) Panel could mean roof & as unnoticeable as possible.

- b) Evidently some comfortability for self while leaving God's work undone. (Wife's soft hands) *7
- c) Panel--laying wood panel over basic stone walls.
- d) A bit beyond needs and into luxury while God unattended. (Clip on Turkey Talk)

2. Significancy of this.

- a) Do we say we have no time, no money, and see no need to set aside time to study & meditate?
- b) Do we have time for ourselves & not for God?

Phil. 2:21 *"For all seek their own - not the things"*

- c) On our scale where do we place the work of God?

E. Review History--Consider ways--lit.
"set your heart on your ways."

- 1. They'd experienced seasons of successive failures.
 - a) Natural disasters--their belief affects nature.
 - b) Forging armies wrecked.
 - c) Sown much--expected a lot.
 - d) Wages weighed out--1st use of metal coins.
 - e) Bag full of holes--great waste.
- 2. Many failures come because we have failed to remember God.
- 3. God blesses those who put Him 1st.

III. For Us

A. Awake to Commitment & Zeal

Isa. 55:1-3 *Incline your ear & come to me*Matt. 6:33 *But seek ye 1st the K.*

B. Try the Big Experiment--God first in everything.

~~Phil 2:21~~

C. There are reasons for our failures.

D. You have a promise of God "I am with you"

Exo. 3:12 *Certainly I will be c thee Moss*Exo. 33:14 *My presence shzld go c thee*Judges 6:16 *I will be c thee - Gideon*Jer. 1:8 *Be not afraid of their faces. I am c thee*Matt. 28:20 *Go ye: & teach*

E. One man made a difference!

1. Aroused a whole community.
2. Did it in 3 weeks.
3. Don't compare temple with Solomon, but just do his will today.
4. Your act of obedience will please and honor God.

F. How much time do you have left?

Walnut Street, Dickson, TN - 1/21/90

Duncan, OK (areawide) - 4/23/90

Preaching #1

On concluding an exceedingly long and dull presentation the speaker said, "And now if anyone has a question, I'll be glad to try to answer it." A member of the audience stood up and asked, "Is it still 1989?"

— Bruce Kafaroff

D O N ' T D E L A Y T O O L O N G

Many have neglected the assembly to worship as well as the weekly Bible classes available. Their intentions have not been, nor are they now, to totally forever abandon such spiritual opportunities. The inner spark has not been completely extinguished. Someday, perhaps soon, they plan to return and resume their earlier activities. #2

To all of these, may I pass along a little story. A cork will float on top of the water. If it is pressed down ten, fifty, or even a hundred feet below the water's surface, it will rise again. However, if it is pressed down two hundred feet below the surface, it cannot rise to the surface because the pressure of the water counteracts the buoyancy of the cork and forces it to sink.

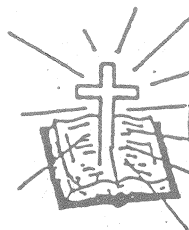
There may be a similar possibility in human nature to delay or fail too long until the inner spark no longer can regenerate one's interest in spiritual matters. Jesus once spoke along these lines to certain Pharisees saying to them that they could no longer believe.

John Holland

The Lowcountry Christian

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GRATITUDE

One stormy night in 1860, a side-wheeler steamboat was rammed by a lumber schooner in Lake Michigan. The steamboat sank just a mile off shore from the village of Winnetka, Illinois. Two hundred seventy-nine of the 393 passengers drowned. Among the heroes of the tragedy was a strong young student of Northwestern University. An excellent swimmer, this man, Edward Spencer, plunged into the lake and swam out to the drowning men and women. He towed one of these persons to shore and immediately went after another. In all, he brought 17 persons to safety, who would have drowned, without his aid. The strain on the young man brought on delirium, which rendered him an invalid confined to a wheelchair for life. On his 80th birthday someone asked him to relate his most vivid memory of that dreadful day. He replied, "Not one of the 17 returned to say thank-you."

#3

over

Zero hour

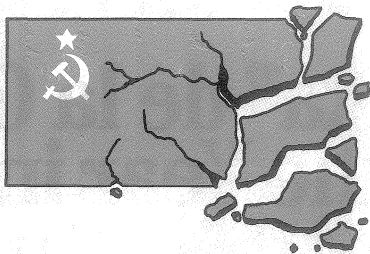
#4

• Patient in doctor's office:
"Are all of these people ahead
of me?"

✓ Receptionist: "Yes—but go
right in."

Patient: "No hurry—I've got
plenty of time."

Recep.: "No you don't—I've
seen your X-rays."



COMMENTARY:

Lessons From a Failed Agriculture

15

Last November in Moscow's Red Square, top leaders of the USSR viewed the parade celebrating the 72nd anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik revolution. At the same time, thousands of Soviet citizens marched in nearby streets in a parade of their own.

The citizens' banners made clear their views. One read, "72 Years on the Road to Nowhere," and another, "Workers of the World—We Apologize."

Certainly, the most remarkable events since World War II are taking place in the USSR and its East European satellites. Central to these events—causing them, driving them—is a failed agriculture. If the Soviet Union had been able to feed itself satisfactorily under its Communist system, then the current economic and social reforms wouldn't be happening.

Soviet reformer Mikhail Gorbachev knows this. Before his rise to the top of the Soviet hierarchy, he was the Politburo member responsible for agriculture.

Gorbachev knows the Soviet agricultural system and, more importantly, he knows it doesn't work. He also knows American agriculture does work.

Thus much of his perestroika (economic restructuring) has focused on his country's woefully inefficient farming sector. That system is the legacy of madman Josef Stalin. It is a ponderous conglomeration of megafarms and collectives where workers are little more than wage slaves.

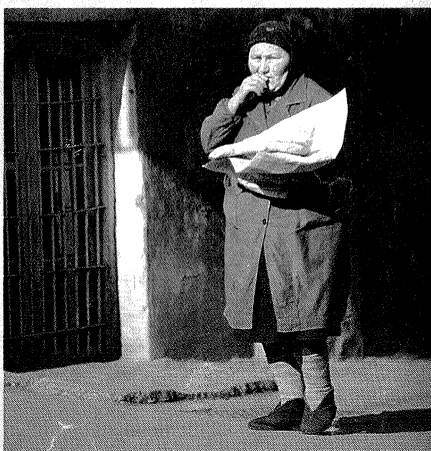
Because production orders have come down from Moscow, farm managers have little incentive to get the most from their farms.

It is a system that was created out of the slaughter of literally millions of kulaks, or land-owning farmers. These independent Russian farmers of the 1920's balked at giving up their land to the state. Stalin subsequently starved them

or exiled them to cold deaths in Siberian labor camps.

The result has been that for more than 60 years the Soviet Union has not had the benefit of what has been the essential foundation of a wondrously productive American agriculture—the family farm.

Gorbachev recognizes that fatal flaw in the Soviet farming system. One of his supporters, a Soviet



How long will she wait? Collectivized agriculture couldn't deliver the goods.

agricultural economist, said more than a year ago, "It has taken us years to realize that the freedom of the man on the soil is the key to success on the farm."

So, as the walls that separate and isolate the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries from the West come tumbling down, let's never forget the reason for the changes. Food, or rather the lack of it, causes citizens to rebel against their Governments and their economic systems.

As we begin debate on the 1990 farm bill, we must be careful not to strangle our farmers, our ag researchers, and our agribusinesses with rules and regulations that will seriously harm our food productivity.

We can learn from what is happening in the Soviet Union, just as the Soviets have learned from us.

Richard Armour once heard a speech given before the members of the New York State Frozen Food Locker Association. The speaker told his audience that their frozen food lockers were good places to hide in the event of a nuclear explosion. Radiation supposedly would not leak into the locker. Armour reflected his feeling for the idea in a little poem:

Move over, ham and quartered cow,
My Geigear says the time is now.
Yes, now I lay me down to sleep,
And if I die, at least I'll keep.

#6

Perhaps our best science could "keep" us, but it cannot make us want to live. Money cannot do it either.

SYMBOLS OF SALVATION - Don M. Aycock - P. 27

Soft and Honest

A young man was admiring his true love's hands. #7

"What do you do to keep your hands so soft and smooth?" he asked.

"Nothing," she truthfully answered.

wife

R.M.B.

Waterloo, Iowa

