

Haggai – Notes 2

[1] HAGGAI'S SECOND PROPHECY (2:1-9)

- 21/7/2D 7 weeks after first; 4 weeks after work started on temple (1:14); discouragement from the elderly who'd seen the 'former glory' of Solomon's temple (v 3). See Ezra 3.

[A] THREE-FOLD EXHORTATION TO THE DISPIRITED (vv 4-5)

- 'be strong' / 'stand fast' (v 4); (ii) 'work'; (iii) (v 5): 'do not fear'. What was to enable/empower them – and what will empower us? - [B] and [C] below

[B] ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PRESENCE (vv 4b-5)

- 'For I am with you ... what I covenanted ... my Spirit remains among you.' [cf 1:13]
- For us: Matt 28:16ff: 'lo I am with you always ...' Ex 33:14: 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Zech 4:6: 'not by might nor by power but by my Spirit'; Phil 2:13; Is 40:29.
- Present to us through his Spirit, as from Gen 3:8 'cool of the day'=Spirit of the day? Isaiah 63: pillar of cloud/ fire = Spirit. (cf Neh 9:20.)

[C] ENCOURAGEMENT OF GOD'S PROMISES (vv 6-9)

(i) Promise of a Glory-filled House: vv 7 and 9

(a) First Possibility – filled with the divine glory

- **OT.** Exodus 25ff – **tabernacle**; Ex 40:33 'finished work of Moses'; then 'glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle ...' ; 1 Kings 8:10 – **Solomon's temple**; Ezekiel 43:1-5 - **Ezekiel** – vision of divine glory returning to the temple – contrast Ezek 10:18, the glory departing.
- **NT. Jesus** (John 1:14) 'became flesh and tabernacled among us'; Jesus the tabernacle/ temple; John 'we have seen his glory.' 'Finished work of Christ' on cross; John 2:19-22 – Jesus raised up the temple. Then, **Day of Pentecost**, his people became a 'holy temple ... in which God lives by his Spirit' (Eph 2:21-2) as the Spirit of Glory (1 Pet 4:14) came and (Acts 2:2) 'filled the whole house' and (v 4) 'all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...' **Ultimately, in Revelation 21/22**, 'Holy City, the new Jerusalem' shining (21:11) 'with the glory of God.' God fills the temple of his new creation with his glory.
- So here, too? See 1:8 'so that I may be honoured' = 'glorified'

(b) Second Possibility – filled with the glory of the nations

- In keeping with **v 8** 'silver/ gold is mine'; **Solomon's temple** – splendid (1 Kings 10); (v 7) **'the desired** of all nations will come (3 p pl) – not Messiah, but treasures of the nations.
- Shaking of 'the heavens/ earth/ sea/ dry land.' See 'plunder the Egyptians' (Ex 12:36), receiving 'silver/ gold/ clothing' (Ex 3:21f, 11:1f) – later used for tabernacle furnishings (Ex 25:3, 31:4f, 35:32, 36). Solomon's temple – 1 Kings 5-6.
- This prophecy fulfilled by Persia paying for restoration of temple (cf Ezra 6:4, 8, 9) (Mk 13:1).
- promise (v 6) in Heb 12:26f - end times: Rev 21:24, 26: temple of new creation not complete until the full glory of humanity from all the nations will have been brought in. [See also Is 60:1-10 – the two possibilities equally appropriate?]

(ii) Promise of Peace: 'In this place – i.e., the temple - I will grant peace.'

[2] HAGGAI'S THIRD PROPHECY (2:10-19)

[A] THE PROMISE OF BLESSING FOR A PREVIOUSLY DEFILED PEOPLE (vv 10-19)

- V 19 'From this day on' blessing'. Vv 15-17 – chastisement as in 1:5-6, 9-11; because Judah unclean (vv 11-14). But, now, God is first, so blessing will follow. 'Seek first

[3] HAGGAI'S FOURTH PROPHECY – CONCERNING ZERUBBABEL (2:20-23)

- Background - **Jeremiah 22:24**. King Jehoiachin - **signet ring** on the Lord's hand – thrown into Babylon (having reigned for 3 months, 10 days).
- signet ring – a stamp of the king's authority; symbol of status and function of Davidic King – as representative of the Great King; a derived authority – to be obedient son (2 Sam 7:14)
- Jer 22 – message of judgement – what actually happened; but here, vision of restoration of Davidic king who will build the temple (2 Sam 7:13).
- Matt 1:1: Jesus - 'the son of David, the son of Abraham'; genealogy in 3 sections, begins with Abraham, ends with seed of Abraham=Jesus; the turning points: **(i)** kingship of David (v 6) and **(ii)** exile of King Jeconiah = Jehoiachin (margin). See v 12 - Shealtiel ... Zerubbabel ... Jesus'
- reason for this action of God in making Zerubbabel 'like my signet ring' –electing love of God. Deut 7:7 – Israel; [Noah; Abraham]; **Eph 1:4f**