

Season 3 Study 7: Haggai's Rebuke

THE BIG YEAR

A Journey through God's Word

How are your Bible readings going? Any new revelations?

1. According to **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**, **Ephesians 2:22** & **1 Peter 2:5** where is God's temple today? What is the temple's purpose? How are we to build and maintain this holy temple?

READ EZRA 4:1-7

2. Who offered to help the Jews build the temple? Why do you think they wanted to assist?
3. Why did Zerubbabel and his leaders reject them, and how did they respond?

READ EZRA 4:17-24

4. What was the result of the letter to the king? What reason did he give for stopping the work on the temple?

READ HAGGAI 1:1-15

5. What accusation did Haggai bring against the 'temple-builders'?
6. What impact did the cessation of the temple building have on the nation according to vs 6? What lesson was God teaching His people through this?
7. How did the people and their leaders' respond to Haggai's rebuke?
8. What assurance did Haggai give the people (vs 13) and what impact did that have on them (vs 14)?

READ EZRA 6:14-16

9. How long did it take to complete the temple from the time the work restarted (see Haggai 1:15)? What impact do you think this would have had on the people's faith?

READ HAGGAI 2:1-9

10. How did the elders, who had seen the former temple made by Solomon, view this new temple (vs 3)?
11. What instructions were given to Zerubbabel, Joshua and the people (vs 4)? What was God going to do (vs 6-7)?
12. Have any of the prophecies of vs 7-9 been fulfilled yet? If so, how? If not, when might they be fulfilled?
See **Luke 20:1**; **John 2:13**; **Colossians 2:9**.
13. What kind of temple can we expect in the New Jerusalem when Jesus returns? Will we still need a temple? Why or why not? See **Revelation 21:22**.

And the people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy. (Ezra 6:16)