**A HOUSE FOR GOD**

**Haggai 1:2 – 9**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. The book is a collection of four (4) brief articles written relative to the rebuilding of the

 2. At first, they were overjoyed at this privilege happily working to rebuild His House.

A. **BUT**, as time went by each person became interested in his own work, the building of his

 own house leaving off the rebuilding of God’s House [The Temple].

 B. After 16 years had passed, Haggai appears on the seen with Zechariah to encourage the

 Jews to return to the work of rebuilding God’s House.

**BODY:**

**1. DIFFICULTIES SHOULD BE FACED COURAGEOUSLY AND WITHOUT DELAY**

A. At first, [we] see they quickly and courageously entered into this work, even though

 facing a great deal of hostility from the Samaritans.

B. Perhaps [we] can learn from them the necessity of facing up to our responsibilities

regardless of what [we] must face in order to please God (Jn 8:29; Gal 1:10; 1 The 4:1).

1. Surely [we] all understand the mission today is similar to the Jews in the sense, [we]

are to build the house of God (1 Tim 3:15).

 C. Although the church was built by Christ (Mt 16:18); as Christians, [we] possess the

 respo­nsibility to ensure her borders are enlarged unto all the world (Mt 28:18-20).

**2. THE GOD GIVEN MESSAGE WILL RESULT IN ACTION**

 A. In study of the book of Haggai, it is evident this message, which was from God, resulted

 in action relative to the rebuilding of the temple.

 1. The people had soon become disinterested or apathetic toward the work of rebuilding

 the city and the temple. **BUT**, God’s Message changed that.

 B. Today, God’s message will still result in action when it is received into honest hearts.

 1. Lk 8:11-15; Rom 1:16; 10:17; Heb 4:12

 C. Thus, it is imperative to have Christians willing to study God’s Word (2 Tim 2:15), then

 impart this profound information unto His Children and the whole world.

**3. MATERIALISM MUST NOT CROWD OUT GOD'S HOUSE AND WORSHIP**

A. If [we] crowd out God’s House (church)/worship, what will be our cost (Mk 8:36, 37).

 B. The Jews, prior to Haggai's coming, had allowed the building of their own houses and the

 attaining of wealth, to crowd out the rebuilding of God’s House (Hag 1:4-6).

 1. One could **NOT** hope to enjoy divine favor showing **NO** concern for Spiritual Issues.

 2. A vast majority of people hoping to receive divine favors while living a LIFE in total

 disregard of Spiritual Concerns will be deeply saddened (Gal 6:7, 8).

 C. [We] must be careful to **NOT** allow materialism to crowd out God and Worship.

 1. The consideration of material things is **NOT** wrong in themselves.

 2. It is when they become the dominate priority in our lives they become wrong.

 A. Mt 4:4; Lk 12:15; 1 Jn 2:15-17

 3. The reason for this is the love for material considerations overshadows our love for

 God which displeases Him (Mt 22:37, 38; Lk 14:33).

**4. OBEDIENCE TO GOD IS A NECESSARY CONDITION OF APPROACHING HIM**

A. In order to receive His BLESSINGS as promised, their lives had to line up (2 Tim 2:4).

 1. They had far too long been out of tune with Him (Pro 16:7; Rom 8:35).

 B. Likewise, today, full obedience is necessary as a condition to approaching God.

 1. Ac 4:12; Gal 3:27; Eph 1:3; Heb 5:9

 A. These BLESSINGS are in Christ; thus, [we] must be in Him to receive.