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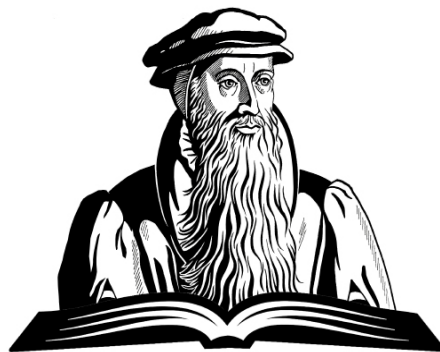
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 110

Haggai Urges the Rebuilding of the Temple

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People God |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
- 110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple**
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 110

Haggai Urges the Rebuilding of the Temple

Haggai, chapters 1 and 2

Memory Verse

“The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.”

—Haggai 2:9

The Time of Haggai

In the Bible lesson about Ezra, we learned that after the Jews returned from captivity, they eagerly began to rebuild the temple. However, hostile Samaritans were able to obtain a stop work order from the Persian king, and the discouraged Jews returned to their homes. There, the task of rebuilding their homes and farms soon took all their time and energy. Their farms became bigger, and their houses fancier. However, as the years went by, it seemed to become harder and harder to make ends meet. Less rain fell, and the harvests were poor. Prices went up, and the people’s money seemed to evaporate. There was worry and anxiety everywhere. At this time, when the half-finished temple had been abandoned for sixteen years, the Lord sent two prophets, Haggai and Zechariah, to urge the leaders and the people of Judah to resume the work of rebuilding God’s house.

A Message from Heaven

In the two chapters of the prophecy of Haggai, we read four short sermons given in the space of about five months. In the sermons, Haggai clearly laid out the people’s faults, and God’s demands. Then we see an amazing response!

In his first sermon, Haggai told the people that the Lord had heard their excuses by which they were trying to justify their neglect of God’s house. “Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, this people say, the time is not come, the time that the LORD’s house should be built” (Haggai 1:2). So many other things swallowed up their time. But Haggai said, “Thus saith the LORD of hosts; consider your ways.” What has been the result of all your hard work recently? “Ye looked for much, and lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house” (Haggai 1:7, 9).

God blessed the words of his servant. We read that God stirred up the hearts of the leaders, Joshua and Zerubbabel, and of the people. Everyone gathered together at the site of the temple, and the work of building soon resumed. How glad Haggai must have been to see their response! “Then spake Haggai the LORD’s messenger in the LORD’s message unto the people, saying, I am with

you, saith the LORD” (Haggai 1:13). Before, the Lord had been against his people because of their misplaced priorities. Now he promised to be with them. What a great comfort! They did not need to worry about their families, their fields, or their animals; God would provide.

Haggai Chapter 2

In the book of Ezra, we read how the Lord prospered the building of his house. The new King Darius found the original work order from King Cyrus, and allowed the building to continue unhindered, even providing funds from the king’s treasury. In Haggai chapter 2, God sends a second message to encourage the builders.

Everyone realized that the second temple would be much smaller than the temple of Solomon, which a few of the very old Jews still remembered seeing. Haggai may pass on a wonderful promise however: “The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts” (verse 9). This promise was fulfilled when Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, the Lamb of God, entered this temple, the first time as a baby of forty days old, then when he was twelve years old, and then during his public ministry. What an encouragement this must have been for the builders! The stones they were laying may not have been as big as the ones in Solomon’s temple, but the Messiah would walk on them! His voice would resound over them, healing the sick and forgiving sins. Then, in Gethsemane and on Golgotha, Christ would take the punishment for sin upon himself. This was the only way he could reconcile guilty sinners with a holy God, and so making peace. If you have this peace, you have all you will ever need! If you miss it, you miss everything. The Lord Jesus said, “In me ye might have peace” (John 16:33).

Review Questions

1. Joshua and Zerubbabel were:

- a. High priest and governor
- b. Judge and governor
- c. Priest and Levite
- d. Scribe and king

2. What do we learn about Zerubbabel in Matthew 1:12?

3. When the people said, “The time is not come, the time that the LORD’s house should be built” (verse 2), what did God reply in verse 4? (fill in the blanks):

“ _____ for you, _____, to _____ in your
_____, and _____ lie
_____?”

4. God said the people were becoming poor because: (Haggai 1:9–11)

- a. God’s house was laying waste.
- b. God called for a drought.
- c. Their money bags had holes in them.
- d. All of the above.

5. What did God challenge the people to do in Haggai 1:8?

“Go up to the _____, and bring _____, and _____ the _____; and I will _____ in it, and I will be _____, saith the _____.”

6. How many days after Haggai’s sermon did Zerubbabel, Joshua and the people start building the temple again? (Compare verse 1 and verse 15)

- a. Three days
- b. Seven days
- c. Fifteen days
- d. Twenty-three days

Discussion Questions

1. Which word do we read in Haggai 1:5, 1:7, 2:15, and 2:18? What do you think the Lord wanted his people to think about carefully? Is there anything in your life which the Lord wants you to reconsider?

2. How was the prophecy of Haggai 2:9 fulfilled? _____

3. Ancient kings wore signet rings which had the king’s emblem on it. Official documents were sealed with wax and imprinted with the king’s ring. This gave the document royal authority. In Jeremiah 22:24, what do you read about one of the last kings of Judah? What do you think this means? _____

3. In Haggai 2:23, it says that the Lord had chosen Zerubbabel and would make him as his signet. What do you think this means? How might this point to Christ? _____
