

## Consider Your Ways

Haggai 1:1-15 Sunday AM, October 6, 2024

**Prelude – Scripture: Haggai 1:1–15** (NASB95) In the second year of Darius the king, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying, 2 “Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘This people says, “The time has not come, even the time for the house of the LORD to be rebuilt.” ’ ” 3 Then the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying, 4 “Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses while this house lies desolate?” 5 Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts, “Consider your ways! 6 “You have sown much, but harvest little; you eat, but there is not enough to be satisfied; you drink, but there is not enough to become drunk; you put on clothing, but no one is warm enough; and he who earns, earns wages to put into a purse with holes.” 7 Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Consider your ways! 8 “Go up to the mountains, bring wood and rebuild the temple, that I may be pleased with it and be glorified,” says the LORD. 9 “You look for much, but behold, it comes to little; when you bring it home, I blow it away. Why?” declares the LORD of hosts, “Because of My house which lies desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. 10 “Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew and the earth has withheld its produce. 11 “I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.” 12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him. And the people showed reverence for the LORD. 13 Then Haggai, the messenger of the LORD, spoke by the commission of the LORD to the people saying, “ I am with you,” declares the LORD.” 14 So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, 15 on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month in the second year of Darius the king.

Once again, we take a break from Luke to which we plan to return next week and look to the prophet Haggai. This is a familiar passage for comparing our profession of priorities with our expression of priorities and for comparing God’s priorities with our own. Note that these words from Scripture are not mere words, but words inside history to specific people in a specific circumstance. **In the second year of Darius the king, on the first day of the sixth month**—I don’t know where this weekend came for you or your attitude toward it, but here it is, right in the middle of whatever. And what took place at THAT time in history? **the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying, 2 “Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘This people says, “The time has not come, even the time for the house of the LORD to be rebuilt.” ’ ”** The people say it is not time to build the house of the Lord, but the Lord says differently. Of course, there were reasons behind both sides, but the final word containing the right reasons and priorities always comes from God. God spoke, and He spoke specifically about priorities, resources, and actions. Pastor Drew will speak about this shortly, but we need to think about how receptive we are to the word of the Lord. Do we hear His words? Which ones? What do we do with these words? Those in right relationship with God agree that whatever God says is worthy of being heard and adhered to. Sing the worthiness of our God.

### \*Hymn #25: Immortal, Invisible

The heart of this chapter and the message today center on God’s admonition to **“Consider your ways!”** Surrounding this in our passage are things to consider. What relevance do these considerations have for us today? Does your life show you will let God’s Word convict you of both the pieces of the problem and the remedy? What should that conviction include? Remember, we don’t determine the problem, solution, OR whether our amount of trying and motivation are good enough—God does. Ask God for a teachable, submissive heart to know Him and submit to His means of growing and serving Him.

### \*Hymn (Powerpoint): Your Will Be Done

### \*Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: On Faith Alone

**Scripture: Matthew 23:23–39** (NASB95) “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. 24 “You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! 25 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. 26 “You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. 27 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. 28 “So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. 29 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, 30 and say, ‘If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ 31 “So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 “Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers. 33 “You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell? 34 “Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, 35 so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. 36 “Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. 37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. 38 “Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 “For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’ ”

### Offering: \*Doxology:

What a hard passage in Matthew 23! I hope you didn’t just let it wash over you unheard because you aren’t a Jewish religious leader. As in Matthew 23, our passage in Haggai has consequences for unrighteous acts that separate us from fellowship with God and His will 9 “You look for much, but behold, it comes to little; when you bring it home, I blow it away. Why?” declares the LORD of hosts, “Because of My house which lies desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. 10 “Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew and the earth has withheld its produce. 11 “I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.” **While this is hard to hear, it is only in acknowledging God’s righteous judgments that there is hope for His righteous deliverance. Sing the overwhelming hope of the believer found in the graciousness of our righteous God.**

### \*Hymn #203: And Can It Be

In order to sing this with gospel assurance, we must identify anything that threatens or stands in the way of true living faith in God alone for your righteous standing and ability to please Him by doing His will. Keep these thoughts in mind as we hear Haggai 1 opened for us.

### \*Hymn (Powerpoint): Not in Me

### Message: “Consider Your Ways” Haggai 1 Drew Gysi

### \*Hymn #375: Jesus Calls Us

### \*Prayer