

## Purpose

To call the people to complete the rebuilding of the Temple

## Meaning of Name

"Festive"

## Date Written

520 BC

## Setting

The Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed in 586 BC. Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to their homeland and rebuild their Temple in 538 BC. They began the work but were unable to complete it. Through the ministry of Haggai and Zechariah, the Temple was completed (520-516 BC).

## Key People

Haggai, Zerubbabel, and Jeshua

## Key Verse

"Why are you living in luxurious houses while My house lies in ruins?"

*Haggai 1:4*

## Special Features

Haggai was the first of the post-exilic prophets. The other two were Zechariah and Malachi.

## An Overview (2 Chapters)

- The Call to Rebuild the Temple (1:1-15)
- The Courage to Rebuild the Temple (2:1-23)

## Major Themes

- *Right Priorities:* It is easy making other priorities more important than doing God's work. But God wants us to follow through and build up His Kingdom. Don't stop and don't make excuses. Set your heart on what is right and do it. Get your priorities straight.
- *God's Encouragement:* If God gives you a task, don't be afraid to get started. His resources are infinite. God will help you complete it by giving you encouragement from others along the way.