

"Prioritize Our Lives - Work Together" - The Book of Haggai

Date: **3-17-24** **LESSON 5**

"But from this day on I will bless you" (Haggai 2:15-19)

Pastor David Nehrenz Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.



SEVEN MISSION PRIORITIES

MISSION PRIORITY #4

"Collaborate with the Synod's members and partners to enhance mission effectiveness"

MISSION PRIORITY #5

Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers

A. THE TEXT

(15) Now then, consider from this day onward. Before stone was placed upon stone in **the temple of the Lord**, (16) how did you fare? When one came to a heap of twenty measures, there were but ten. When one came to the wine vat to draw fifty measures, there were but twenty. (17) **I struck you** and all the products of your toil with blight and with mildew and with hail, yet you did not turn to **me, declares the Lord**.

(18) Consider from this day onward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month. Since the day that **the foundation of the Lord's temple** was laid, consider:

(19) Is the seed yet in the barn? Indeed, the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree have yielded nothing. **But from this day on I will bless you."**

B. THE KEY PEOPLE and THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. Darius the king – Hystaspis ruler of Persia (522-486 B.C.)
2. Haggai the prophet (**Ezr 5:1-2; 6:14**)
3. Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah – Sheshbazzar (**Ezr 1:8**)
4. Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest
(taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar in **1 Chr 6:15**)
5. The remnant of the people
6. The last day of the Feast of Tabernacles- 21st day of the 7th month = Oct. 17, 520 B.C.

C. THE STUDY NOTES

1. The stones were laid upon another on the 24th day of the 6th month. The heap and measure of grain was not 20 measures, only 10 measures. The poor harvests happened because the people sinned in disobedience (**Is 5:10**). The wine vat had only 20 measures instead of 50, also because of their sins (**Is 16:10**).
2. When blight and mildew came upon their crops, it was a curse for their disobedience (**Dt 28:22; 1 Ki 8:37; Am 4:9**). Also hail brought God's judgment (**Ex 9:25; Ps 78:47,48**).
3. The foundation of the temple was laid in 536 B.C. (**Ezra 3:11**). They were to give careful thought about obeying from now on and into the future.
4. The vines, figs, pomegranates would ripen in August/September and the olives from September to November. The harvests had been small because of past disobedience. But now God will bless them as they respond with obedience to the preaching of Haggai (**Ps 128:1-6; Joel 2:14; Mal 3:10**)
5. The New Testament connections to disobedience/obedience; unclean/clean; defiled/holy:
(**Mt 23:16-28; Mk 7:17-23; Lk 11:37-42; Jn 13:8-17; 15:1-7; Rom 14:17-23; Heb 10:19-22**)

D. SEVEN MISSION PRIORITIES

MISSION PRIORITY #4

Collaborate with the Synod's members and partners to enhance mission effectiveness

What does this mean?

Our life together as members of the Synod — our congregations and her workers — has as its strength the unity of the Christian faith and our mutual and common commitment to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our common confession of faith in Christ calls us out of isolation to work together in love in the mission of proclaiming Christ to those far and near. As disciples of Christ and members of His Body, it is our joy in the Gospel to confess our faith to others. We have an ecumenical responsibility and privilege to boldly confess our faith to the world and to other church bodies, both those who share our confession and those who do not. It is also our joy and privilege in the mission of proclaiming Christ to the nations to join with other churches, partner churches, service organizations, mission societies and other church groups who share our confession of the Gospel.



Scripture reference: 1 Peter 4:7–11

MISSION PRIORITY #5

Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, financial, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers

What does this mean?

Pastors and professional church workers are first and foremost disciples of the Lord Jesus. They cannot give to others in the work to which God has called them what they themselves have not received and continue to receive in their own lives. The baptismal life of contrition and repentance that is comforted, strengthened and sustained by the Gospel of Christ and His Sacraments is central to the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of every disciple of Jesus and especially our church's workers who are charged to care for others. The Synod and districts, in partnership with RSOs and support agencies, provide ongoing help, support and encouragement to our church workers.



Scripture reference: Galatians 5:22–6:2

E. NEXT WEEK 3-24-24 LESSON 6

"I have chosen you, declares the Lord of hosts" (Haggai 2:20-23)

MISSION PRIORITY #6

Enhance early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, and youth ministry

MISSION PRIORITY #7

Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design