

## “Prioritize Our Lives - Work Together” - The Book of Haggai

Date: **3-24-24** LESSON 6

“I have chosen you, declares the Lord of hosts” (Haggai 2:20-23)  
Pastor David Nehrenz Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.



### SEVEN MISSION PRIORITIES

#### A. THE TEXT

The word of the Lord came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month,  
(21) "Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I am about to shake the heavens and the earth,  
(22) and to overthrow the throne of kingdoms.

I am about to destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations, and overthrow the chariots and their riders.

And the horses and their riders shall go down, every one by the sword of his brother.

(23) On that day, declares the Lord of hosts, I will take you, O Zerubbabel my servant, the son of Shealtiel, declares the Lord, and make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you, declares the Lord of hosts."

#### 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- 21<sup>st</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month = Oct. 17, 520 B.C.

#### C. THE STUDY NOTES

1. The work of Haggai the prophet (Ezra 5:1; 6:14)
2. Zerubbabel – his kingship (Ezra 2:2; 3:2,8; 4:2,3; 5:2; Neh 7:7; 12:1,47; Zech 4:6-10)
3. New Testament – The Messianic line and family tree of Jesus includes Zerubbabel (Mt 1:12,13; Lk 3:27)
4. To overthrow like Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19:25; Am 4:11)  
and Pharaoh at the Red Sea (Ex 15:1,4,19,21)  
God overthrows all his enemies (Ps 46:9,10; Mt 24:7)
5. On that day = the Day of the Lord  
(Is 2:11,17,20; 10:20,27; Zech 2:11; 13:1; Zeph 3:9,11;  
Acts 2:20; 1 Cor 5:5; 1 Th 5:2; 2 Th 5:2; 2 Pet 3:10)
6. My servant was Zerubbabel but truly fulfilled in the Messiah (Is 41:8,9,42)
7. The signet ring was his seal for used in the wax of official documents (Jer 32:10)
8. The true seal is Jesus in the Holy Spirit and would be the mark on all believers  
(Jn 3:33; 6:27; Rom 4:11; 2 Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13,14; 4:30; 2 Tim 2:19; Rev 5:1; 7:3)
9. Chosen by God – David – Jesus – Us  
(Is 42:1; 2 Sam 7:11-16; Ps 78:70; John 4:22; Col 3:12; 1 Th 1:4; 1 Pet 2:4-10; Rev 17:14)

#### D. SEVEN MISSION PRIORITIES

##### MISSION PRIORITY #6

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

##### What does this mean?

Our schools and youth ministries catechize the next generation of Christians through the living and vibrant heritage of our Lutheran ethos (2016 Res. 8-01A) and in preaching and teaching the faith. Children at every age level are taught to listen to God’s Word, to receive His gifts in the Divine Service and catechesis, to pray, to confess, and to live joyously in love for others in their vocations. Youth ministry focuses on equipping our youth to remain faithful to Christ as they encounter the most pressing challenges to the Word of God from a godless society. Our schools and youth ministries are engaged in the promotion of both church-work vocations and faithful



service to society in secular callings. Enhancement of our schools includes an emphasis upon doctrine and practice that is faithful to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, curricula that is informed by the educational and catechetical reforms of the Lutheran Reformation, schools that are closely aligned with our congregations, affordable tuition, recruitment and training of Lutheran teachers and administrators, and resources for assisting congregations in the establishment of new schools.

#### **What is the Lutheran ethos? It is:**

Daily prayer that utilizes Holy Scripture, Luther's Small Catechism, the hymnal and the liturgical tradition of the Evangelical Lutheran Church;  
The centrality of the forgiveness of sins;  
Memorization of Holy Scripture and Luther's Small Catechism;  
Ongoing training of teachers in Holy Scripture and our Lutheran Confessions;  
Integration of our scriptural and confessional worldview with music and all the arts, sciences and academic disciplines, recognizing these disciplines as gifts of God in their own right;  
An understanding of the place of law in the secular and spiritual kingdoms;  
Honor and respect for parents and authorities as representatives of God;  
A partnership and involvement with parents in every aspect of their child's education and spiritual growth; and  
The promotion of Christian vocation characterized by faith in Christ and love for one's neighbor.

**Scripture reference: Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

#### **MISSION PRIORITY #7 Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design**

##### **What does this mean?**

In making lifelong disciples, our Synod is committed to promoting and strengthening God's gift of Christian marriage and family life in a culture that is becoming increasingly secularized and anti-Christian. God has created mankind in His image (**GEN. 1:26-27**) and has designed the family wherein each member is given a holy vocation. Yet, this created order is under attack by the sinful flesh, the world and the devil. A Christian view of marriage, life and family is in accord with the Word of God and embraces and confesses the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. (See 2016 Res. 14-01; 14-02A; 14-03A; 14-04; 14-08A; 16-02A; 16-03.)



##### **What does such support and strengthening of the family include?**

The defense and nurture of the vulnerable and defenseless from the threats of abortion; euthanasia; sexual and domestic abuse; neglect and abuse of the elderly, infirm and disabled; and any medical and/or technological manipulation that seeks to change the very good creation of male and female, or that strives to modify what it means to be *human* according to the Word of God.

The service of men and women who are single in the Body of Christ, either by choice, gift or circumstance (**MATT. 19**).

The biblical understanding of being a single man a husband (**GEN. 1-2; EPH. 5:25-33**) or a father (**PROV. 22:6**).

The biblical understanding of being a single woman (**MATT. 19**), a wife (**GEN. 1-2; EPH. 5:22-24**) or a mother (**TITUS 2:3-5**).

The biblical understanding of sacrificial love, mutual submission, headship and subordination within Christian marriage and family, and how this manifests itself in the church (**EPH. 5:1-6:9**).

Serving families and individuals who suffer from the pain and isolation of barrenness, divorce, death, disability and other manifestations of the brokenness caused by original sin.

Providing support and encouragement to find fulfillment in how God has created us as male and female, and to receive His gifts of marriage and family with joy. **Scripture reference: Ephesians 5:15-6:4**

**E. NEXT WEEK 3-31-24** Easter Sunday – Evidence for the Resurrection and Holy Land Slides – in the Sanctuary  
**STARTING 4-7-24 “The Book of Ephesians - We Are His Workmanship”**