

## WILL YOU LEAVE THE LORD'S HOUSE IN RUINS?

### Haggai 1-2

Key Verse: 1:9, "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the Lord Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house."

Overview: In 538 B.C. the Lord moved Cyrus king of Persia to support and allow the exiled Israelites to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem (read Ezra 1:1-7). But the rebuilding had stopped, largely due to opposition. In 520 B.C. the Lord's messages came to his people through the prophet Haggai.

### Chapter 1

1. To whom did Haggai prophesy and during which king's reign (1)? What did the people say (2)?
2. What question did the LORD ask through Haggai (3-4)? What did the LORD ask them to "give careful thought to" and why (5-7)? What was God showing them through a drought in the land (9-11)?
3. How did Zerubbabel the governor, Joshua the high priest and the whole remnant of the people respond to the words of Haggai (12)? What was the result of the Lord's stirring up their spirits (13-15)?

### Chapter 2

4. What questions did the LORD give them through Haggai's second message (2-3)? Whom did the Lord tell to "be strong" and why (4-5)? What else did God promise them and why (6-9)?
5. In God's third word to Haggai, what illustration did he give them and why (10-14)? What did God want them to give careful thought to and why (15-19)?
6. In God's fourth word to Haggai, what did God promise he would do with nations and with Zerubbabel (20-23)? How have God's messages through Haggai challenged or inspired you?