

Haggai

WHAT'S THIS BOOK ABOUT? This book records four challenging messages Haggai gave the people of Jerusalem after they had returned from exile in Persia.

WHO WROTE IT? Haggai.

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN? In 520 B.C., after King Cyrus of Persia allowed the Hebrew exiles to return home.

WHERE DOES THIS BOOK FIT? At the end of the Exile.

THE BREAKDOWN

- 1:1-15: Message 1—Get busy and rebuild the Temple of the Lord
- 2:1-9: Message 2—God's glory will fill the Temple
- 2:10-19: Message 3—God's wayward people will be blessed
- 2:20-23: Message 4—God is sovereign over the nations

KEY CONCEPTS

"Look at what's happening to you!"
"I am with you!"

SCORECARD

Haggai: The prophet
Zerubbabel: The governor of Judah

READING TIME
IN HOURS: :30 | 1:00 | 1:30 | 2:00 | 2:30

1:2-8 God called the people in Jerusalem to reflect honestly on their lives and reconsider their priorities. The people had returned from exile and started to rebuild the Temple, but they had stopped when they faced opposition. They chose to build beautiful homes for themselves instead of finishing God's house. They had proven by their actions that they considered their personal comfort to be more important than God. As a result, they suffered the consequences of hard times. We must make sure that our priorities are such that God is first in our lives and that our other commitments are keeping with His Word.

WORTH MEMORIZING

- 1:5-7 "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you! You have planted much but harvest little. You eat but are not satisfied. You drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!"
- "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Look at what's happening to you!"

THE MASCULINE PERSPECTIVE

- **ENCOURAGEMENT BY OBEDIENCE.** Haggai's insistence on rebuilding the house of the Lord reminds us to get our priorities right. The people kept thinking of excuses for not doing the important thing. But Zerubbabel's love for God and his commitment to obedience stimulated the building effort. In the same way, when we take the initiative to do God's work, we can spark others to follow.

Headlines

"ON THE DOUBLE," SAYS ZERUBBABEL
Haggai 1:12-15, page 1294
BLESSINGS FOR ALL
Haggai 2:10-19, page 1295

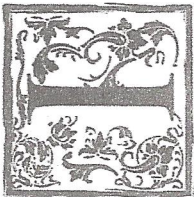
WHAT'S THE POINT OF Haggai?
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God isn't content to play second string.

In It For Me?
I WILL RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING WHEN I...
TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS.
MAKE TIME TO CARE FOR MY NEEDS.
GOD FIRST.

WHO'S FOOLISH ENOUGH TO SPEND MONEY AS FAST AS HE OR SHE EARNS IT? SEE HAGGAI 1:1-6.

Timeline

605 B.C.	DANIEL TAKEN TO BABYLON
597	EZEKIEL TAKEN TO BABYLON
586	JERUSALEM FALLS
539	BABYLON OVERTHROWN BY CYRUS
538	CYRUS'S DECREE: EXILES RETURN TO JERUSALEM
536	TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS
530	TEMPLE WORK HALTED
520	HAGGAI, ZECHARIAH BECOME PROPHETS; TEMPLE WORK RESUMED
515	TEMPLE COMPLETED
458	EZRA COMES TO JERUSALEM
445	NEHEMIAH COMES TO JERUSALEM



n the ancient world, orators were rock stars. Their rhetoric established cities, changed laws, and started wars. In today's world, motivational speakers occupy the same role, and they get paid big bucks for their words. The best motivational speakers easily command six-figure fees for every speech.

The prophet Haggai was one of the Bible's great motivational speakers. He gave his messages for free, but their value was beyond any price imaginable. Under his ministry, a project that had stalled for sixteen years was resumed and completed. And it wasn't just an ordinary project—it was the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple.

Years after the Babylonian exile, a remnant of Jews returned to Jerusalem to reestablish their city and rebuild the temple of the Lord. The work was hard, the resources sparse, and the opposition great. In great discouragement, the workers suspended the project and began building their own houses.

Then Haggai came with some messages from the Lord, delivered during a four-month period in 520 B.C. He called Israel back to obedience and back to their true priorities, and he motivated them to finish the task of rebuilding God's house.

We often find life is hard, resources sparse, and opposition great. In discouragement, we sometimes reverse our priorities and fail to do what God most wants us to do. We put our comfort ahead of God's cause. Haggai's message is: Consider your ways, cast off discouragement, put first things first, and finish the task assigned to you.



KEY THOUGHT:

The priority of finishing God's work should come before the priorities of our own comfort and convenience.



KEY VERSES:

Then the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying, 'Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins? Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Consider your ways!'"

Haggai 1:3-5



KEY ACTION:

Be strong, all you people of the land, and work. For God is with you (see Haggai 2:4).



KEY PRAYER:

Father, give me strength to finish the work You have put before me.
Fill me with Your Spirit.

Haggai

Timeline	538 BC Cyrus's decree allowing the Jews to return to Judah and begin rebuilding the temple	538-457 BC Events in Ezra	520 BC Opposition, discouragement, and cessation of work on the temple	520-518 BC Challenge from Haggai and Zechariah to resume construction of the temple
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“The final glory of this house will be greater than the first,” says the LORD of Hosts. “I will provide peace in this place!” —this is the declaration of the LORD of Hosts” (2:9).

Who wrote Haggai?
The prophet Haggai (1:1, 13)

Who were the recipients?
The recipients for Haggai's four messages are plainly stated in the text. He addresses Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah; Joshua, the high priest; and the “remnant” or returned exiles in Israel.

Where did it happen?
Haggai takes place in Jerusalem. In 538 B.C., King Cyrus of Persia allowed any Jewish person in his kingdom to return to Jerusalem to help rebuild the temple. In 537 B.C., the first group of exiles, numbering close to 50,000 (see Ezr 1-4), arrived in Jerusalem. In 536 B.C., the foundation of the temple was laid, but the work ceased until Haggai called them back to the task at hand.

When was Haggai written?
ca. 520 B.C.

What is Haggai about?
God as the Lord of Hosts. God's power is over all things on earth and in heaven.
The rebuilding of the temple. The temple lay in ruins and Haggai's message was for God's people to remember the things of God.

Outline

- I. The First Message: Rebuild the Temple (1:1-15)
 - A. Haggai's Challenge (1:1-11)
 - B. The People's Response (1:12-15)

- II. The Second Message: Encouragement and Promise (2:1-9)
- III. The Third Message: From Defilement to Blessing (2:10-19)
- IV. The Fourth Message: Promise to Zerubbabel (2:20-23)

Title: The book bears the name of its author Haggai (4th, “feast or festival”), a prophet (4g 1:1) and the Lord's messenger (4g 1:13), who ministered for a brief period of four months and

then disappeared from recorded biblical history. Consequently, not much is known about this prophet. He was a contemporary of Zechariah (Ezr 5:1; 6:14), though neither prophet mentions

the other. Scholars debate whether Haggai was born in Israel and then taken into exile, born in Babylon during the exile, or a resident of Israel who never went into exile. However,

BASIC SURVEY

HAGGAI

AUTHOR: Haggai (1:1).

DATE: 520 BC—a precise date because Haggai mentions “the second year of Darius the king” (1:1 KJV), which can be verified against Persian records.

IN TEN WORDS OR LESS

Jews returning from exile need to rebuild God's temple.

DETAILS, PLEASE

One of three “postexilic” prophets, Haggai encourages former Babylonian captives to restore the demolished temple in Jerusalem. The new world power, Persia, has allowed the people to return to Jerusalem, but they've become distracted with building their own comfortable homes. Through Haggai, God tells the people to rebuild the temple first, to break a drought that's affecting the countryside.

QUOTABLE

> “Be strong, all you people of the land,” says the LORD, “and work for I am with you,” says the LORD of hosts (2:4 NKJV).

UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL

Haggai seems to hint at the end-time Tribulation and second coming of Christ when he quotes God as saying, “I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come” (2:6-7 KJV).

SO WHAT?

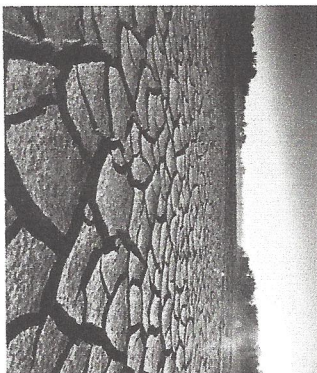
Priorities are important. When we put God first, He is more inclined to bless us.

READ HAGGAI 1 AND PROVERBS 23.

- One-Month Course: your next reading is on page 170. →
- Three-Month Course: your next reading is on page 170. →
- Six-Month Course: your next reading is on page 168. →

CLOSER LOOK

ENCOURAGING GOD'S WORKERS



When people stopped building the temple, God sent a severe drought. Haggai ordered them to begin working and finish the temple.

time has not yet come to rebuild the LORD's house" (Haggai 1:2 NIV).

God then began to withhold His blessings and sent a drought to get their attention: As the prophet Haggai told them, "You have planted much but harvest little. . . . Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!" (Haggai 1:6 NLT). Haggai explained that God was withholding His blessings because His people were afraid to stand up for what was right. Worse yet, while they judged it an inopportune time to build the temple, they were building fine dwellings for themselves. They were putting themselves first. God demanded, "Why are you living in luxurious houses while my house lies in ruins?" (Haggai 1:4 NLT).

Haggai ordered them to boldly start building once again. The prophet Zechariah echoed this message. Then Zerubbabel (the Jewish ruler) and Jeshua (the high priest) took courage and started to rebuild, "and the prophets of God were with them, helping them" (Ezra 5:2 NKJV). Soon the people joined them, and the temple was finished.

READ HAGGAI 2 AND PSALM 49.

● Six-Month Course: your next reading is on page 170.



HIDDEN TREASURE

THE GLORIOUS TEMPLE

As long as the temple was only a foundation, it wasn't apparent what it would become. But after the Jews began building the walls, it became evident that it simply couldn't compare to the temple Solomon had built. Haggai asked, "Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing?" (Haggai 2:3 NKJV). While admitting that the new temple couldn't compare, Haggai prophesied, "The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former" (Haggai 2:9 NKJV). In fact, beginning about 20 BC, King Herod rebuilt this second temple, and eventually it became grander and more glorious than even Solomon's temple (see Luke 21:5).

READ PSALMS 52-54 AND PROVERBS 24.

HIDDEN TREASURE

GOD'S SIGNET RING

God told the prophet Haggai, "Speak to Zerubbabel governor of Judah, saying. . . 'I will make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you,' declares the LORD of hosts" (Haggai 2:21, 23 NASB). A signet ring was an extremely precious ring, expressing the bearer's authority. With this ring a king or wealthy official signed and authorized official documents by pressing its insignia into moist clay or hot wax. God had made Zerubbabel just such an authority and executor of His will. But there was a warning to such men: maintaining such an exalted position was contingent upon their continuing obedience—if they disobeyed God, He would remove their authority and anointing (see Jeremiah 22:24).

READ PSALMS 57-58 AND PROVERBS 25.

Haggai

You enjoy your video games, you keep your iPod loaded with the most recent tunes, and you like to wear a little “bling” to school. Is that so bad?

It depends.

In 520 B.C., Cyrus the Great, the king of Persia, released an edict granting permission for all the peoples who had been taken captive by Persia to return to their native countries and worship their native gods. The original decree—called the Cyrus Cylinder—still exists today as an artifact in the British Museum. So, the Jews departed from Babylonia and returned to the promised land—bringing with them the temple vessels that had been taken to Babylon (Ezr 1:1-11).

The Jews began rebuilding their lives and the temple that had been destroyed. But over time, their efforts gravitated more and more toward their homes and less on the house of God. Through their inaction, they neglected their God, the One who had brought them back home. Referring to the temple, the prophet Haggai asked his people, “Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?” (1:4). Although not necessarily extravagant, paneled houses seemed luxurious compared to the temple’s dilapidated condition. Haggai and his colleague Zechariah served as prophets in Judah, encouraging the people to rebuild the temple, which they did (Ezr 5:1-2; 6:14-15).

Haggai’s book is composed of five messages, three of which are given an exact date based on the second year of Persian king Darius I

(who was also known as Hystaspes), in 520 B.C.

(1:1, 15; 2:10), God called Haggai and Zechariah to help the Jews align their priorities with God’s. Their first order of business was to challenge the people to rebuild the temple. Because some of them were reluctant to cooperate, Haggai pointed out that their financial problems were the result of neglecting the Lord and His house. But under the leadership of Zerubbabel, their

governor and Joshua, the high priest, “they began work on the house of Yahweh of Hosts, their God” (1:14).

In his successive messages, Haggai encouraged the people to continue in their work, assuring them that God was with them (2:4). He also pointed to the day when the Lord would “fill this house with glory” (2:7). At that time the “final glory of this house” would be “greater than the first” (2:9). This prophecy points to the coming of the Messiah, whose presence in that very temple would represent the glory or the presence of the Lord.

The book of Haggai reminds us that God must be our highest priority. And our spending habits often reflect where our true priorities lie. So is it okay to spend your money and time on video games, iPods, and “bling”? It depends on where your priorities lie. Do you live in a “paneled” house while your temple (1Co 3:16-17) is in ruins?

Author: Haggai

Date: After the exile (around 520 B.C.)

What in the world is going on?

536 B.C. Construction begins on the second temple in Jerusalem

ca 525 B.C. Buddhism founded by Siddhartha Gautama

525–524 B.C. Cleisthenes of Athens is archon (ruler) of the city-state of Athens

522–486 B.C. Darius I rules in Persia

520 B.C. Darius I rules the Persian Empire; Haggai prophesies in Jerusalem

520–518 B.C. Zechariah prophesies to the returned exiles in Jerusalem

520–486 B.C. During his reign over the Persian Empire, Darius I takes over the Punjab region in India; he controls Egypt as well

520 B.C. Haggai prophesies in Jerusalem

ca 500 B.C. Democracy begins in Athens

ca 500 B.C. Alexander I rules Macedonia

500–300 B.C. The Classical Age in Greece (conflicts with Persia through the conquests and death of Alexander the Great)

499 B.C. In Anatolia, Greek tyrant Histiaeus leads the Ionians in a revolt against the Persians; this led to the Greco-Persian Wars (492–449 B.C.) (A tyrant was a ruler who seized power)

496 B.C. Greek playwright Sophocles (*Oedipus the King*) is born

495 B.C. Athenian statesman Pericles is born; he had a hand in the construction of the Acropolis

494 B.C. Within the Roman Republic, the plebeians (Roman citizens) secede from Rome and form a tribunate

ca 484 B.C. Noted historian Herodotus is born

INTRODUCTION TO
HAGGAI

BACKGROUND

King Cyrus has issued a decree allowing Jews to return from Babylon (now in the hands of Persia) and rebuild Jerusalem. Their governor is a descendant of David, Zerubbabel, who is mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus (Mt 1:12). At first, the returning exiles are eager to undertake the task. However, their enthusiasm ebbs and, sixteen years later, in the reign of King Darius, the temple is still not rebuilt (although their houses are, 1:4).

Haggai is one of the Jews who returns to Jerusalem under the leadership of Zerubbabel. Haggai may have been around seventy-five years old at the time of his ministry in 520 B.C. and would have remembered the first temple (2:3). He has a brief ministry, prophesying for about two years. The name Haggai means "festive."

MESSAGE

Through Haggai, God challenges the

OUTLINE

- I. Haggai's Appeal
- II. Two Temples Contrasted
 - A. Work begins
 - B. Greatness for the latter temple
- III. Rebuke and Encouragement
- IV. Promise to Zerubbabel

people to regain proper priorities and resume work on the temple. Promises also accompany this challenge: God will reward the obedience of the people with blessings that surpass the glory of Israel before the exile (2:6-9, 18-23). Haggai ends with a word about Zerubbabel, who spearheaded the completion of the temple: that he is a "signet" ring or a guarantee that a Messiah would come through the lineage of David.

TIME

Based on the information in the text, hooking prophecies to the reign of Darius the great, Haggai's preaching took place on four days in the last four months of 520 B.C. The prophet Zechariah was a contemporary of Haggai and began his ministry between Haggai's second and third messages. The temple, sometimes called Zerubbabel's temple, was completed in 516 B.C.

1:1-11

1:12-15

2:1-9

2:10-19

2:20-23

Why We Can Stop Making Excuses

Read: Haggai 1:1-12 | Habit: Self-reflection

Haggai had a message for the people from God: stop making excuses and rebuild the temple (Hag 1:2). The Lord was unimpressed with the excuses the people had come up with to justify their actions; it was time for them to stop putting personal interests ahead of spiritual priorities.

This type of excuse-making is a form of rationalization, a psychological defense mechanism where we try to provide rational reasons to avoid the true explanation for our behavior.

Here are two main reasons we make excuses—and two reasons to change such self-serving behavior:

Here are two main reasons we make excuses—and two reasons to change such self-serving behavior.

▶ *We don't want to admit the truth*—As sinners, we don't like to admit when we're wrong, when we've messed up or when we've acted immorally. We don't like to admit those types of truth to ourselves or to others. But God always knows the truth, for as he said, "Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?" (Jer 23:24).

God knows the truth about us—and yet he loves us anyway. Our first step in avoiding rationalizations is to confess to God what he already knows and ask him for the courage to respond in obedience.

▶ *We don't want to take responsibility*—Attempting to avoid responsibility was one of the first actions recorded in the Bible. When God confronted them after their sin, Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent (see Ge 3:12-13). Neither of them wanted to accept the consequences of their actions, so they attempted to shift the blame onto the other person. The reality is they *weren't able* to bear the full consequences for their actions—so the Father shifted the bearing of that sin-burden onto the Son.

Yet while God has freed us believers from the ultimate consequences of our sin, we're still expected to take responsibility for our actions and face the results. As Paul says, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows" (Gal 6:7). We can take comfort in knowing, though, that the Holy Spirit is always with us and will help us through the trials we've brought upon ourselves.

PRACTICAL TAKEAWAY: When we put our full trust in God's love and forbearance, we remove any reasons for excuse-making.

- A. INTRODUCTION (1:1)
- B. THE FIRST SERMON: REBUKE (1:2 – 15)
 - 1. The Prophet's Challenge to Rebuild the Temple (1:2 – 11)
 - 2. The People Respond with Action (1:12 – 15)
- C. THE SECOND SERMON: RENEWAL (2:1 – 9)
- D. THE THIRD SERMON: RESTORATION (2:10 – 19)
- E. THE FOURTH SERMON: REASSURANCE (2:20 – 23)

THE BIG PICTURE

Haggai was called to encourage the people of Jerusalem to return to the task of rebuilding God's house. About 18 years had passed since Cyrus had released Zerubbabel and a group of Jewish exiles to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. The people had begun the project filled with hope, but pressure from the local authorities and selfish decisions led them to quit the task and turn instead to building their own homes. Their priorities were out of order.

Over a six-month period, Haggai delivered four messages designed to motivate the people to complete the task of rebuilding God's temple and redirecting the course of their lives. Haggai told the people to stop making excuses and get back to work. He told them that their present sufferings were a result of their failure to put God first in their lives. They needed to get their spiritual lives back in line with God's will. Their actions needed to prove their change of heart before they could expect God's blessings. Haggai's messages concluded with encouragement by promising God's help as they continued the task.

The task of rebuilding the temple was difficult; so is the task of rebuilding our lives. There will always be obstacles to any rebuilding project, but we don't have to let those obstacles stop us. We must remember the message of Haggai: God is there to help us each step of the way. Just as God's people had to reassess their spiritual lives in the rebuilding process, we also need to examine our lives and prove our change of heart by our actions. We can then respond, like the people of Jerusalem, to Haggai's message and move forward with God's help in our own rebuilding and restoration process.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL THEMES

GOD'S PLAN MUST COME FIRST

The people of Jerusalem started rebuilding God's temple. But when they met with stiff opposition, instead of trusting God and standing up to the opposition, the people turned away from the rebuilding project God had set out for them and built their own homes instead. We tend to make the same mistake. When we face obstacles to God's plan for our spiritual growth, we may get sidetracked from our primary mission and follow the way of least resistance. We may lower our standards, give in to sin, avoid confession, stop seeking God and neglect relationships with those who hold us accountable. We may even look for a spiritual path that looks easier because it excludes God or removes the voice

of a nagging conscience. But when we reject God's plan, we also reject his power and blessing in our lives. Even though God's way may not always be easy, we cannot experience spiritual renewal and fulfillment apart from following God's will.

WE WILL FACE OBSTACLES

The rebuilding process is never easy. Satan will rear his ugly head time and again as we seek God and surrender to him. The people of Jerusalem faced numerous obstacles as they sought to rebuild the temple. Local leaders repeatedly tried to stop the work. The people became afraid and gave up on the task God had given them to do. With God's help and Haggai's encouragement, however, the rebuilding of God's temple was completed. God wants us to grow spiritually, and he will help us to overcome the obstacles to our spiritual renewal if we look to him for help.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL REQUIRES ACTION

It is much easier to recognize a problem than it is to do something about it. God's people in Jerusalem knew the temple needed to be rebuilt. Their national strength and spiritual lives depended on it. They had begun the task but had become discouraged and failed to follow through. This failure to act brought continued suffering to God's people. Haggai urged the people to act; he calls us to do the same. When seeking spiritual renewal, we must not merely recognize our need. We must also use the keys God gives us to move toward reconciliation with God, ourselves and others. As painful as this process can be at times, our spiritual renewal will also be moving us toward restoration and peace.

Essential Facts

PURPOSE:
To challenge the people to complete the rebuilding of God's temple, their community and their lives.

AUTHOR:
The prophet Haggai.

AUDIENCE:
The people living in Jerusalem, including those who had returned from Babylonian exile.

DATE WRITTEN:
Between August and December 520 BC.

SETTING:
Jerusalem had been in ruins since her destruction by the Babylonians in 586 BC. The people had started to rebuild the temple but had failed to complete the task.

KEY VERSES:
"This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I make take pleasure in it and be honored,' says the Lord" (1:7 – 8).

KEY PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS:
Zerubbabel (the political leader), Joshua (the priestly leader) and the prophets Haggai and Zechariah.

KEY PLACES:
Jerusalem and the temple.

HAGGAI

What's in a Name?

The name Haggai means "festival" or "feast."

BY THE NUMBERS

2 CHAPTERS
38 VERSES
1,025 WORDS

DID YOU KNOW?

In the Word
Haggai, along with Zechariah, returned to Jerusalem and encouraged the returned remnant to complete the rebuilding of the temple.

▶ The rebuilding of the temple took 20 years to complete, mostly due to political opposition. There were actually only six years of work involved in the rebuilding—the other 14 years consisted of delays.

▶ Haggai is the second shortest book in the Old Testament. Only Obadiah is shorter.

KEY PASSAGE

"This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD Almighty. 'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the LORD Almighty. 'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the LORD Almighty (2:6-9)."

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ZEPHANIAH AND HAGGAI?

ZEPHANIAH IN REVIEW

HOT SEAT
1. I am being called a "shameful nation" by that prophet Zephaniah! What nation am I?

TIME TRAVELER
2. You are King Hezekiah's grandson. What relation are you to Zephaniah?

A. His father
B. His grandfather
C. His great-grandfather
D. His great-great-grandfather

MINUTIAE & MISCELLANY
3. What land will belong to the remnant of Judah?

A. Moab
B. Ammon
C. Cush
D. Philistia

WHO SAID IT?
4. "I am the one! And there is none besides me."

MINUTIAE & MISCELLANY
5. Concerning Moab and Ammon, God declared that one would become like Sodom, the other like Gomorrah. Which one was to become like Gomorrah?

WHERE IN THE WORLD
6. "Gaza will be abandoned and Ashkelon left in ruins." To what nation did these cities belong?

HAGGAI IN REVIEW

MINUTIAE & MISCELLANY
1. Who was king of Persia when Haggai received word from the Lord?

HOT SEAT
2. The word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to the high priest and to me, governor of Judah. What is my name?

TIME TRAVELER
3. You are the high priest when the time comes to rebuild the Lord's house. Who are you?

HOT SEAT
4. Well, as you can imagine, I'm a pretty proud father! I am watching my son as he receives the word of the Lord and carries out his duties as governor of Judah. What is my name?

MINUTIAE & MISCELLANY
5. In what year of the king of Persia's reign did all this take place?

A. His first year
B. His second year
C. His third year
D. His fourth year

MINUTIAE & MISCELLANY
6. Whom did God choose to be like his "signet ring"?

ANSWERS:

ZEPHANIAH: 1. Danus (1:1) 2. Zerubbabel (2:2) 3. Darius (1:1) 4. Darius (1:1) 5. Darius (1:1) 6. Zerubbabel (2:2) 7. Philistia (2:6) 8. Ammon (2:6) 9. Cush (2:6) 10. Philistia (2:6) 11. Philistia (2:6) 12. Ashkelon (2:4) 13. Ashkelon (2:4) 14. Ashkelon (2:4) 15. Ashkelon (2:4) 16. Ashkelon (2:4) 17. Ashkelon (2:4) 18. Ashkelon (2:4) 19. Ashkelon (2:4) 20. Ashkelon (2:4)