

**THE TIME HAS COME
TO BUILD THE
LORD'S HOUSE**

BACKGROUND OF HAGGAI

- **Babylonian captivity**
- **Cyrus' decree - Ezra 1:1-4**
- **Sovereignty of God - 1:1-4; 6:22**
- **Everyone whose heart stirred returned
- Ezra 1:5-6; Exodus 12:35-36**
- **Temple vessels returned - Ezra 1:7-11**

STARTING TO BUILD THE TEMPLE

3:7-13 Comparisons to first temple

1. Food, oil to Tyre for wood I Kings 5:1-12
2. Started building in 2nd month I Kings 6:1
3. Sing same song II Chron. 5:13; 7:3 Ezra 3:12-13 joy and weeping

OPPOSITION TO THE TEMPLE

- 4:1-5 enemies of Jews (1), discouraged people (4), frustrated counsel (5)
- 4:24 work on temple ceases 15-20 years
- 5:1-2 Haggai and Zechariah preach to build the temple - 6:14

HAGGAI 1

“Good reasons” not to rebuild

- **The economy was poor - 1:6, 9, 10, 11**
- **People discouraged - Ezra 3:12-13**
- **Their enemies were many - Ezra 4**
- **There is rarely a time when this cannot be said - Ecc. 11:4; Prov. 22:13; 26:13**

HAGGAI 1

None of these excuses seemed to slow them from building their own houses

- 1:3-4 paneled houses - Deut. 33:21; I Kings 6:9; 7:3, 7; Jer. 22:13-14 - unlike II Sam. 7:2
- 1:9 each runs to his own house; runs-good Gen. 18:2, 7; evil - Prov. 1:16; 6:18
- **How are we like this? Phil. 1:21 & 2:21**

HAGGAI 1

God's work/ God's cause has priority

- 1:8 Solution: “Go to the mountain, build the temple that I may be glorified.”
- Acts 17:27; Matthew 6:32-33
- Is God asking too much of us?