
❖SERMON NOTES ❖

Sunday, August 21, 2016

“PUTTING FIRST THINGS FIRST”

(Haggai 1:2-9)

The Book of Haggai, the second shortest in the Old Testament, communicates this message: Put first things first. As we move into the fall, how can we set our priorities to make a consistent difference in our world and honor our God?

1. Stop making _____ (v. 2).

2. Cease being _____ (v. 3-4).

3. Don't miss _____ (v. 5-6).

4. Take time _____ (v. 5, 7).

How will we know that we have put first things first?

A. We are active _____ (v. 8)

B. God is _____ (v. 8)

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1. Stop making excuses (v. 2).

“Thus says the Lord of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord” (Haggai 1:2, ESV).

“But Martha was distracted with much serving” (Luke 10:40, ESV).

“All our busy rushing, ends in nothing” (Psalm 39:6, NLT).

2. Cease being selfish (v. 3-4).

“Then the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?” (Haggai 1:3-4, ESV).

3. Don’t miss God’s blessings (v. 5-6).

“Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes” (Haggai 1:5-6, ESV).

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you” (Matthew 6:33, ESV).

4. Take time to evaluate (v. 5, 7).

“Consider your ways” (Haggai 1:5, 7, ESV).

How will we know that we have put first things first?

A. We are active in the right things (v. 8)

“Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord” (Haggai 1:8, ESV).

B. God is glorified (v. 8)

C. God blesses us (v. 13).

“I am with you” (1:13, ESV).