

# CONSIDER YOUR WAYS

“Faithful to Fulfill: A Study of God as Revealed in Post-Exilic Scripture”  
Haggai 1:1-15 / Part 6 / Pastor Matthew Jones

www.delreychurch.com

## Word Comes (Haggai 1:1-4)

Revelation (v.1)

Rebuild (v.2)

Reality (vv.3-4)

## Ways Considered (Haggai 1:5-11)

Satisfaction (vv.5-6)

Service (vv.7-9)

Sky (vv.10-11)

## Wills Changed (Haggai 1:12-15)

Penitence (v.12)

Presence (v.13)

Power (vv.14-15)

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

1. In our sermon series “Faithful to Fulfill” we have been studying the post-exilic history of God’s people Israel in the book of Ezra. After Ezra, the books of Nehemiah and Esther also give us the details of this narrative history. On top of these books we have prophets who come to the people during this time, specifically Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. In this Sunday’s sermon, we began studying our first prophet, Haggai. To refresh your memory of the text, please read together the first chapter of the prophetic book of Haggai and then discuss how having the first 4 chapters of Ezra under our belts help us understand this book.

2. In Haggai 1 we see the people of Israel were distracted from the historic moment before them, namely that God had delivered them from exile and brought them back to the land and had given them the honor of rebuilding the Temple. In this age of the church, discuss how we can miss the moments before us that God gives us to serve His cause. How can our bad attitudes, busyness, sin, idolatry, and brokenness (or whatever else) get in the way of seeing the mission before our eyes in sharing Christ? Discuss the dangers of our missed moments of ministering Jesus’ love and gospel to others by allowing earthly distractions into our lives.

3. Haggai 1 mentions the people were distracted by a preoccupation with their stuff, specifically making their homes look really nice (1:3,9). In our North American culture, how are we preoccupied with our homes, as well as our stuff in general? If we are not careful, our stuff distracts us and pulls us away from church and the mission of Jesus we have been given. Try to discuss this not merely in the abstract, but get personal if you can. For example, what specific stuff (or the perhaps pursuit of stuff you don’t have but want) do you find personally tempting and pulling you away from the things of God? What stuff do you see weakening the church’s witness in this age and how can we seek God for renewal? Share.

4. In our study of Haggai, we saw God come to Israel and confront their procrastination in not rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem. In your own life, what has been your worse act of procrastination and how did you learn from it? Is there any before you that you are procrastinating over and need help to face?

5. In the sermon, we reflected on Israel’s circumstances and enemies in the post-exilic period and how the prophet Haggai reminded the people that God is “the LORD of hosts” (1:2) and further that He was in control over everything. How does the reminder of God’s power and providence bring you comfort in times where you feel like things are out of control? Can you share about a time in which you experienced panic and anxiety, only to have the reality of God’s might and meticulous control of things snap you out of it and bring you comfort? If so, share. On the other hand, share—as well—if you’ve experienced times where you cannot snap out of it and the panic or anxiety overwhelms you. In these experiences, what has God taught you or what is He teaching you as it relates to trusting Him and finding rest in His sovereign care of our lives?