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Haggai 2 The Greater Glory And The Shaking Of All Things Fulfilled



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Introduction

† Haggai 2 continues the call to rebuild, but now it goes deeper, it shifts from physical rebuilding to covenantal fulfillment.

† The people saw a lesser temple, but God was pointing to something far greater that was about to come.

† From the fulfilled perspective, this chapter isn't about a future temple, it's about the transition from the old covenant system to the unshakable kingdom in Christ.

Haggai 2:1-3

On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying, Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison?

† The people were discouraged because the second temple didn't compare to Solomon's temple, they were focused on outward glory instead of what God was about to accomplish (Haggai 2:3).

† This shows their expectation was still tied to physical structure, not covenant fulfillment.

† The disappointment reveals how easily people miss what God is doing when they measure by appearance instead of purpose.

Haggai 2:4-5

But now take courage, Zerubbabel, declares the Lord, take courage also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land take courage, declares the Lord, and work; for I am with you, declares the Lord of armies. As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is remaining in your midst; do not fear.

† God reassures them that His presence hasn't left, even though the structure seemed smaller (Haggai 2:4).

† The covenant is still in effect, but it's moving toward fulfillment, not permanence in its current form.

† The focus is on God's presence, not the building, pointing forward to God dwelling with His people in Christ (John 1:14).

Haggai 2:6-7

For this is what the Lord of armies says: Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this temple with glory, says the Lord of armies.

† This is a direct promise of covenantal shaking, God declares He will shake heaven and earth (Haggai 2:6).

† Hebrews 12:26-28 shows this was fulfilled in the first century, removing the old covenant system.

† The glory promised isn't physical splendor, it's the presence of Christ and the establishment of the new covenant reality.

Haggai 2:8-9

The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine, declares the Lord of armies. The latter glory of this temple will be greater than the former, says the Lord of armies, and in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of armies.

† God makes it clear that material wealth isn't the issue, He owns it all (Haggai 2:8).

† The greater glory was fulfilled when Christ entered the temple, bringing the true presence of God (Matthew 12:6).

† The peace promised is fulfilled in Christ, not in a structure, but in reconciliation (Ephesians 2:14-16).

Haggai 2:10-14

On the twenty-fourth of the ninth month, in the second year of

Darius, the word of the Lord came to Haggai the prophet, saying, This is what the Lord of armies says: Ask the priests for a ruling: If someone carries holy meat in the fold of his garment and touches bread with this fold, or cooked food, wine, oil, or any other food, will it become holy? And the priests answered, No. Then Haggai said, If one who is unclean from a corpse touches any of these, will the latter become unclean? And the priests answered, It will become unclean. Then Haggai said, So is this people. And so is this nation before Me, declares the Lord, and so is every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean.

† Holiness doesn't transfer outwardly, but uncleanness does, exposing the weakness of the old system (Haggai 2:13).

† External rituals couldn't produce true righteousness, they only revealed impurity.

† This points to the need for true cleansing, which comes through the new covenant (Hebrews 10:1-4).

Haggai 2:15-19

But now, do consider from this day onward: before one stone was placed on another in the temple of the Lord, from that time when one came to a grain heap of twenty measures, there would be only ten; and when one came to the wine vat to draw fifty measures, there would be only twenty. I struck you and every work of your hands with scorching wind, mildew, and hail; yet you did not come back to Me, declares the Lord. Do consider from this day onward, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month; from the day when the temple of the Lord was founded, consider: Is the seed still in the barn? Even including the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree, it has not borne fruit. Yet from this day on I will bless you.

† Their lack of blessing was tied to covenant disobedience, not chance (Haggai 2:17).

† God calls them to recognize a turning point, from this day forward, blessing begins.

† This anticipates the greater blessing fulfilled in Christ.

Haggai 2:20-23

Then the word of the Lord came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying, Speak to Zerubbabel governor of Judah, saying, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth. I will overthrow the thrones of kingdoms and destroy the power of the kingdoms of the nations; and I will overthrow the chariots and their riders, and the horses and their riders will go down, everyone by the sword of another. On that day, declares the Lord of armies, I will take you, Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, My servant, declares the Lord, and I will make you like a signet ring, for I have chosen you, declares the Lord of armies.

† Zerubbabel is identified as a signet ring, representing authority and covenant identity (Haggai 2:23).

† This ultimately points to Christ, who comes through this line as the true chosen ruler (Matthew 1:12-16).

† The shaking of kingdoms points to the fall of the old order and the establishment of Christ's kingdom.

Historical References

† Josephus records the rebuilding of the temple and the struggles of the returning exiles, confirming the historical context of Haggai.

† Eusebius describes the transition from temple-centered worship to Christ-centered fulfillment in the first century.

† Early Christian writers consistently saw these prophecies fulfilled in Christ and the end of the old covenant system.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We're not waiting for another temple, God has already established His dwelling with His people.

† The kingdom we belong to can't be shaken because it's already been established in Christ.

† Our focus isn't on outward systems, but on the reality of God's presence fulfilled in us.

† Everything that could be shaken has been shaken, what remains is the eternal kingdom.

Q & A Appendix

Q Was the shaking of heaven and earth future to us?

A No, Hebrews 12:26-28 shows it was fulfilled in the first century with the removal of the old covenant system.

Q What is the greater glory of the temple?

A It was Christ Himself entering it and fulfilling what the temple pointed to, Matthew 12:6.

Q Why did the second temple seem inferior?

A Because they were focused on physical appearance instead of covenant fulfillment, Haggai 2:3.

Q What does the shaking of nations mean?

A It refers to the judgment and removal of the old covenant world and the establishment of Christ's kingdom, Haggai 2:6-7.

Q Is Zerubbabel the final fulfillment?

A No, he points forward to Christ, who is the true chosen ruler

in his lineage, Matthew 1:12-16.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Haggai

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

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