

***God
Is In
Control***

Haggai 2:20-23

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20 And again the word of the LORD came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth day of the month, saying,

21 Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, I will shake the heavens and the earth;

22 And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.

23 In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, will I take thee, O Zerubbabel, my servant, the son of Shealtiel, saith the LORD, and will make thee as a signet: for I have chosen thee, saith the LORD of hosts.

Introduction

A. We do not have control of many things in life

B. It seems like things are bad and getting worse

Ecclesiastes 2:22-23

22 For what hath man of all his labour, and of the vexation of his heart, wherein he hath laboured under the sun?

23 For all his days are sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

Introduction

C. We need to know God is in control when fearful

1. You are valuable

Matthew 10:29-31

29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

2. He has us

Isaiah 41:13

For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Introduction

D. The context

1. Retreat from rebuilding the temple

Haggai 1:2

Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built.

2. Rebuke of the prophet

Haggai 1:4-5

4 Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

5 Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

Introduction

D. The context - continued

3. Revival in the people

Haggai 1:12-13

12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD.

13 Then spake Haggai the LORD's messenger in the LORD's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the LORD.

Introduction

D. The context - continued

4. Revelation given by the Lord

Haggai 2:6-7

6 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;

7 And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Introduction

D. The context - continued

5. Remember Who is in charge

Haggai 2:18

Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, consider it.

I. God's Sovereign Plan (vv 20-21)

A. Sovereignty = "supreme power or authority".

Colossians 2:10

And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

B. God sent a direct message to His servant Zerubbabel.

C. God has a sovereign plan for all

Jeremiah 32:39

And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

I. God's Sovereign Plan (vv 20-21)

D. How can we know God's sovereign plan for our lives?

Deuteronomy 8:3

And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

II. God's Supreme Power (vv 20-22)

A. We can be confident in God's supreme power

1. He has power over nature (v 21)

2. He has power over rulers (v 22)

Ephesians 1:21

Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

II. God's Supreme Power (vv 20-22)

A. We can be confident in God's supreme power – cont'd

3. He has power over our enemies

Isaiah 54:17

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Romans 8:31

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

II. God's Supreme Power (vv 20-22)

B. We can be comforted by God's supreme power

1. In scope

Jeremiah 32:27

Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

2. In security

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

III. God's Selected People (v 23)

A. The purpose involved

1. God chose Zerubbabel for a specific purpose

2. God chooses us for a specific purpose

a. Must be willing

2 Timothy 2:21

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

b. Must be working

Acts 13:2

As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

III. God's Selected People (v 23)

B. The privilege involved

1. To fulfill God's promise

Matthew 1:12

And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;

Matthew 1:16

And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

III. God's Selected People (v 23)

B. The privilege involved

2. To fulfill God's praise

a. On earth

Matthew 5:16

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

III. God's Selected People (v 23)

B. The privilege involved

2. To fulfill God's praise - continued

b. In eternity

2 Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

III. God's Selected People (v 23)

B. The privilege involved

2. To fulfill God's praise - continued

b. In eternity

Revelation 4:10-11

10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Is God In Control Of Your Life?