

**Sermon Series: Living By Priority: A Study of Haggai**

6/6/25 “God’s Blessings,” Haggai 2:10-19, MEV

**INTRODUCTION** Ever begun serving God then asked, “Why hasn’t my life changed?”

“Do not expect the work of three months to undo the neglect of 16 years.” –**Hayford (Bible Handbook)**

3 months after Haggai 1st spoke...Consider from this day forward: Why were you not blessed in the past?

**MAIN IDEA: Keep faithfully serving God.** Why? Here are four principles to consider.

**I. First, holiness (12)** *I need*

**Holy:** set apart for God, His purposes; morally pure; separated from anything defiling, impure

**Hebrews 12:14, NLT:** work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

A. we receive holiness only through Jesus in our inner being

**Gal. 2:20, NIV 1984:** I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

B. our natural self resists holiness

**Galatians 5:16-17, MEV:** I say then, walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.

C. holiness is not transferred to us from a person or thing, just as a healthy person can’t transfer his health to another

**EX:** temple, holding a Bible, attending church, another person, place

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**II. Second, defilement (13-14)** *I avoid*

**Unclean:** defiled, contaminated, polluted morally; caused by contact with immoral people, things

A. easy to be defiled by what or who influences us (13)

1. what we read, watch, listen to

2. people we spend time with

**1Corinthians 15:33, MEV:** Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.”

B. immoral people, things, atmosphere appeal to our nature

C. we grow in defilement when not growing in holiness—no balanced point, just “growth” one way or another

D. corrupts our very work (14)

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**III. Third, disappointment (15-17)** *I turn*

A. past efforts for ourselves produced less than expected (15)

**EX:**

B. had we missed God’s trying to get our attention? (17)

1. He lovingly tries to turn us to Him

**1John 2:15, MEV:** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

**Hebrews 12:7, MEV:** Endure discipline; God is dealing with you as with sons. For what son is there whom a father does not discipline?

2. He uses disappointment to redirect us

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**IV. Finally, blessing (18-19)** *I seek*

A. He will begin blessing us the day we turn to Him (18)

1. working on our behalf

2. working that which He sees is good

B. His blessing means good that *will* come to us (19)

C. He may use natural events (vine), just as He used natural events to turn us to Him

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**CONCLUSION:**

**ALTAR:**