

Sermon Series: Living By Priority: A Study of Haggai

4/13/25 “Chosen,” Haggai 2:20-23, MEV

INTRODUCTION Ever try to change a person but couldn’t? Ever feel as though your service isn’t doing anything for the kingdom?

This msg. same day as 3rd msg

MAIN IDEA: Look ahead as you keep serving. Why? Here are three reasons.

I. First, God is going to “shake up” people. (21)

Luke 21:25-27, MEV: 25 “There will be signs in the sun and the moon and the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; **26** men fainting from fear and expectation of what is coming on the inhabited earth. For the powers of heaven will be shaken. **27** Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

- A. people live in fear—of other people, pandemics, asteroid headed toward moon, asteroids striking earth, pollution, overpopulation, underpopulation, greenhouse effect
- B. day will come when the whole world will be in terror... natural disasters, unnatural terrors unleashed
- C. His desire will be twofold
 1. wrath & beginning of judgment
 2. salvation of those who are willing

Lesson: God will get through to people we cannot get through to.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. Second, God is going to overthrow nations (22)

Overthrow: overturn, convert, change

Psalms 2:1, MEV: Why do the nations rage, and the peoples plot in vain?

Psalms 2:8, NKJV: Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the end of the earth for Your possession,

Psalms 72:11, NKJV: Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him.

- A. we might feel too small to struggle against evil we see

1. it has too much authority

2. it has too much power

B. God will deal with man’s kingdoms (& Satan’s rule)

John 16:11, MEV: and of judgment, because the ruler of this world stands condemned.

1. their throne (**Throne:** place of authority)
2. their strength (**Strength:** might, power)...likely their armies (chariots & riders: men & demons)

C. all evil & ungodly authority completely

Lesson: God will rule the nations that we see ruling wrongly.

ILLUSTRATION:

III. Finally, God will reward His servants (23)

A. Zerubbabel is an example for us of faithfulness

1. renewal of an OT promise...rule of line of David
 - God had rejected King Jehoiachin (Jer. 22:24)
 - But God raised up Z, J’s grandson
2. Z is in lineage of Jesus, from 2 sides...paternal/ Joseph (Matt. 1), maternal/Mary (Luke 3)
3. God rewards Z for his faithfulness

Signet Ring: a signature ring; given as a pledge, a promise

B. God will reward all of His faithful servants

1. like Z we are all chosen
2. we show faithfulness by serving Jesus

Lesson: We will be rewarded for our faithfulness.

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION:

ALTAR: Feel too small or powerless? Anxious about what you see? Think about giving up serving?