

**Date: April 29, 2018**

**Sermon Title: The Stirring**

**Speaker: Richard Smith**

**Scripture text(s): Haggai 1-2**

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- 1) Read Haggai 1:1-3. What was the difference between the Israelites' timing and God's timing? What motivated the Israelites to this perspective?
- 2) Richard stated that, "The longer you delay in obedience the harder it is to obey." How was this true in the Israelites? Discuss how this happens in our lives now.
- 3) The Israelites' zeal for God had been dulled and they had become indifferent. What are some things in our lives today that dull our zeal for God?
- 4) Read Haggai 1:5. What is important about God's command?
- 5) Read Haggai 1:6-9. What were the people concerned about? What was their priority? What was God's priority?
- 6) Haggai 1:12 tells us that the Israelites obeyed and feared the Lord. What was the result of this obedience? How does this apply to us?
- 7) What was the comfort that God gave them in Haggai 1:13? How does it bring encouragement you?
- 8) In Haggai 1:14-15 we learn that God stirred up Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the people. What is important to note about who did the stirring? For what purpose/purposes has God stirred you?
- 9) Read Haggai 2:1-3. The Israelites were feeling discouraged about the "small work" they were doing compared to what the temple once was. Discuss how we get discouraged as we compare our "small works" to work going on elsewhere that seems bigger and better.
- 10) In Haggai 2:4-7 we learn who brings about the harvest. How can this encourage us as we serve and do the works God has called us to?
- 11) In Haggai 2:7-9 God reminded the Israelites that He owns everything and that He brings about the results of their work. In what ways can you apply this to your life? In what ways have you seen God bring about His results in your life and others' lives?
- 12) What point did Richard bring out from verses 7-9 about God receiving the glory of the future temple? How does this apply to you?

