The other temple – not Solomon’s
Haggai 1:1-15
Some things are more important

Haggai preaches to people who have come back to Jerusalem from 70 years of captivity in Babylon. They came back to rebuild the temple of God that Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed in 586 BC. They started building, and then quit. Now 15 years later, Haggai wants to stir them up to get God’s house finished.

Haggai preaches 4 short messages in these two chapters. The first message develops out of verse 2: “Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.”

Haggai responds to the statement in three ways:

I. They were using the statement __ as an excuse __________ (1-4)
   
   A. They claimed to be waiting for __ the proper time to obey God _________________.
      
      How does God show that their statement is an excuse?

   B. The very reason they had returned from captivity was __ to rebuild the temple __________.
      
      Ezra 1:2-4 –
      
      The real problem was that __ they had developed __________ other interests _________________.
      
      So their actions showed that their statement was __ an excuse__.  

II. They weren’t experiencing God’s blessing (5-11).
   
   A. Their blessings __ disappeared __________.
      
      Why? (vs 9) –

   B. God withheld what He __ normally gave __________.
      
      “Because of you” (vs 10) –

III. Blessing depended on making __ God’s house their priority __________ (12-15).
   
   A. This was the “remnant” – these were the good people.
      
      Psalm 137:5-6 –

   B. Obedience would bring __ the blessing of God __________.
      
      Blessing # 1 – __ “I am with you” __________
      
      Blessing # 2 – __ The Lord stirred up the spirit __________
      
      What is our priority today? Matthew 16:18 –
      
      Hebrews 10:24-25 –
      
      Ephesians 4:15-16 –

   C. Even “small” moves of obedience bring God's blessing.