

Discussion Questions for Haggai, Zechariah & Malachi
EFree Church, Diamond Bar
November 9, 2014

Outline from Sunday's Sermon:

1. Haggai challenges us to examine our priorities.
2. Zechariah reminds us to live in light of our future hope.
3. Malachi warns us to guard against careless worship.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Haggai 1:1-6. When the Israelites returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple, they got off to a good start. However, obstacles came their way (e.g. opponents who tried stop the project), they got discouraged and stopped building. The temple remained unfinished for over 16 years. Can you think of an unfinished project in your life (e.g. home improvement, work-related, personal goal, etc.) that you would like to finish? If so, please share.
2. Read Haggai 1:8. The temple of God in the Old Testament existed for the glory of God. When God's children neglected the unfinished temple, they weren't simply neglecting a building, they were neglecting the very glory of God. What are some areas in your own life that can easily distract you from giving God the attention and glory that He rightfully deserves?
3. Read Zechariah 9:9. As God's children, our lives are to reflect our future hope. Can you think of a recent opportunity that you had to share or demonstrate your faith, whether it was in the workplace, at school, or in your neighborhood? How did you respond to that opportunity?
4. Read Malachi 1:6-8. The priests were offering sick and lame animals to God. In other words, they were giving God less than their best in worship. Pastor and author, John Piper says, "Malachi leaves us in no doubt about the origin of careless worship. It is the failure to see and feel the greatness of God." Share your thoughts about this quote. In what ways do we as God's children give Him less than He deserves when we gather for corporate worship at church? What can you personally do to foster an environment that desires to give God nothing less than the best when we gather to worship Him?