

## Haggai 1, Kingdom building: [which one?](#)

Have you ever had cause to look at you life and ask, “how did I get to this point?”

Read Haggai 1:1-4.

1. How have the people of Israel justified their non-building of the Temple (here referred to as “the Lord’s house”).

2. How does what God says in verse 4 challenge their priorities?

Read Haggai 1:5-7.

3. What lifestyle might the people expect to have, given the work that they've put in?

4. What's the reality of their lifestyle?

5. Hoes does verse 4, combined with God's repeated instruction – *give careful thought to your ways* – help the people start to make sense of their reality?

Read Haggai 1:7-11.

6. How does verse 8 attack the idolatry of the people (compare verse 4)?

7. Verse 8, why does God want His house to be built, and how does it relate to the first commandment?

8. How do verses 9-11 explain why the reality of life for this remnant doesn't match up to their expectations?

Read Haggai 1:12-15.

9. How do the people respond to what Haggai has said in 12?

How does God react to them in verse 13?

How does God help them to 'get it right' in verse 14-15?

Application.

10. If you're an ancient Jew reading Haggai 1, what would this mean for you, in terms of how you appreciate:

Hardship?

The Temple?

God's place in your life?

11. As a Christian reader of Haggai 1, how do we respond when God says to us, “give careful thought to your ways”?

12. Is there an area of your life where it's easy to 'get busy with your own house' and not God's plans?

13. How can we encourage one another to stick with God's program?