

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of February 16, 2020

The Prophets Were With Them

This week, Pastor Steve Shelby preached from [Ezra 5:1-2](#).

¹Now the prophets, Haggai and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel who was over them. ²Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God that is in Jerusalem, and the prophets of God were with them, supporting them.

- “Then the work on the house of God that is in Jerusalem stopped, and it ceased until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.” ([Ezra 4:24](#))
- What is God’s response? He sends prophets. Let’s look at these two prophets.
- Haggai
 - All we know of Haggai, the man, is recorded for us in the prophecy that bears his name. The book of Haggai covers roughly 4 months in the year 520 BC. There are 4 sermons in his book, two of which were preached on the same day.
 - His first recorded words are, “These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD... Is it time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses while this house lies in ruins?” ([Haggai 1:2-4](#))
 - 16 years have passed. “Consider your ways. You have sown much and harvested little. You eat but you never have enough, you drink but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves but no one is ever warm. And he earns wages puts them in a bag with holes.” ([Haggai 1:6](#))
 - Are you dissatisfied? Is enough never enough? What matters to you?
- Zechariah
 - His ministry spans about 2 years. Zechariah has visions; Eight at the beginning of his book. But he answers the question of why the Temple mattered.
 - He looks forward to the day “There shall be a fountain opened for the House of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.” ([Zechariah 13:1](#))
 - The Temple was the place where sin was addressed.
- Again, in all the world, God is focused on this little group of people.
- Four months and two years

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org