WATERBROOK SERMONS, REVISITED

“Haggai 2”

A Waterbrook Digital Network production with host

Brian Jeffreys

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|  |  |  |  | PRODUCTION SCRIPT | |
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WATERBROOK BIBLE, REVISITED

“Haggai 2”

Episode 9

CAST

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| HOST AND PRODUCER |  | Brian Jeffreys. |
| SERMON #1 |  | Haggai #3 02/23/2014 – Honoring God and His Priorities Dr STEPHEN BRAMER |
|  |  |  |

PRODUCTION:

Background Music Selections:

# Free Fall - Vendredi [Audio Library Release]

# · YT Copyright-free Music

# Eclipse - tubebackr [Audio Library Release]

# · YT Copyright-free Music

# Voyage - Lahar [Audio Library Release]

# · YT Copyright-free Music

Chill Out Electronic Study Music Instrumental Mix

# · YT Copyright-free Music

# SCENE 1 - INTRODUCTION (HOST, AUDIO CLIPS)

1. MUSIC: [A-1] INTRO THEME--UP. ESTABLISH. FADE UNDER.   
     
   1. HOST: Welcome to our study of the Old Testament Book of Haggai.
   2. Hi, I’m your host, Brian Jeffreys. Waterbrook Sermons Revisited is a weekly Bible study where we

go verse-by-verse through a book of the Bible.

* 1. Some of Waterbrook’s very smart pastors will speak to us from these passages in sermons from the past, but we will glean the corners, so to speak, and pick up some delightful treasures that they may not have had time to cover.
  2. Turns out that the second half of Haggai chapter 2 is on us to dig through and see what treasures lie ahead. You know I’m excited about that!
  3. HOST: So, to recap, we’ve spent the last two weeks covering Haggai chapter 1 which is the story of the Jewish remnant returning to the land under permission from the Persian emperor, Cyrus.
  4. As we open chapter 2, we find that the people have obeyed the Word of the Lord, but they have become discouraged after looking at the temple that God instructed them to build compared to what it would have looked like in the days of Solomon.
  5. And we’ll talk about carrying holy meat in our pocket. What in the world?
  6. And finally, we’ll talk about how Zerubbabel will become like a Signet Ring heralding one of the most bizarre prophecies of the Messiah.

HOST: So to finish off Haggai chapter 2, Let’s join Doctor Stephen Bramer, teaching pastor of Waterbrook Bible Fellowship from a sermon entitled, “Honoring God by Our Actions” which originally aired, February 23rd, 2014.

# SCENE 5 – Haggai 1: 1-5 (DR. STEVEN BRAMER)

1. CUT-1 [SERMON-1]: PASTOR STEPHEN BRAMER

# SCENE 6 – OUTRO (HOST, AUDIO CL)

1. MUSIC: [A-4] MUSIC UPBEAT. ESTABLISH THROUGHOUT.
2. HOST: So let’s review the history of the great Temple of Jerusalem for a moment to get an idea why this was such a big deal.
3. King David wanted to build a permanent house for God back in 1 Chronicles 28, so he amassed the all of the building materials (I Chronicles 28:1-19; II Chronicles 2-4; I Kings 6-7). Including 100,000 talents of gold and 1,000,000 talents of silver, (I Chron. 29). From his own private fortune David also gave 3,000 talents of gold and 7,000 talents of high grade silver. This is an enormous quantity of gold and silver by any standard: over 3700 tons, value today = $45 billion; 1,000,000 talents of silver = 37,500 tons, value today = $10.8 billion. In round numbers, the wealth of the first temple was about $56 billion.  
     
   In addition to all the gold and silver, King Solomon used great quantities of bronze, cedar, iron, and precious stones. The most holy place of Solomon's temple was lined with cedar from Lebanon and covered with 600 talents of gold. This gold plating alone, about 540,000 troy ounces, would be worth about $270 million today.
4. During the reign of Solomon "silver was as common as stone" in Jerusalem, (I Kings 10:27).
5. The temple of Solomon took 7-1/2 years to build and the efforts of about 180,000 laborers, (I Kings 7:13, 5:6, 13, 14; II Chronicles 2:17-18). Great quantities of local stone and imported cedar wood were used. This was the high point for the opulence of the Temple of God.
6. The wealth of the first temple was immediately plundered after the death of Solomon. During the reign of Solomon's son Rehoboam, Shishak, King of Egypt, raided Jerusalem about 925 BC and "took away treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house; he took away everything. He also took away the shields of gold (500 in number, worth about $36 million) which Solomon had made..." (II Chronicles 12:1-12). According to Second Chronicles 12, Shishak's army numbered 60,000 horsemen and 1200 chariots, so they could carry away loads of gold.
7. Jewish King Asa also depleted the temple treasures by sending "all" that was left of the silver and gold to Ben-hadad, king of Syria, to buy his help against Baasha, king of Israel (I Kings 15:18, 19).
8. A new plundering took place during the reign of Ahaziah when Jehoash, king of Israel carried off to Samaria "all" the gold and silver in the temple and the palace, (II Kings 14:14).
9. King Ahaz went even further than any of his predecessors in sacrilege, for, besides robbing the temple and palace of their treasures to secure the aid of the king of Assyria, he removed the brazen altar from its site, and also the bases and ornaments of the lavers, and the oxen from under the bronze sea (II Kings 16:10-17).
10. Then in 701BC, Hezekiah paid tribute to Sennacherib, king of Assyria, 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold, "and Hezekiah gave him 'all' the silver that was found in the house of the Lord and in the treasures of the king's house. Hezekiah even cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the Lord and from the doorposts and gave it to the king of Assyria as tribute. (II Kings 18:13-16). Later Hezekiah foolishly received the emissaries of the king of Babylon and showed them his remaining state treasures: "Hezekiah...showed them all the house of the precious things, the silver and the gold and the spices, and the precious ointment and all the house of his armor, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his domain that Hezekiah did not show them," (II Kings 20:12-13). So when Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem in 586 BC he took all the treasure that Hezekiah showed off. "And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his friends, all these he (Nebuchadnezzar) brought to Babylon. And they burned the house of God, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious vessels," (II Chronicles 36:18,19). A parallel account in II Kings 25 describes the seized vessels of the house of the Lord as including pots, snuffers, dishes for incense, firepans, bowls, etc.
11. Now when God asked them in verse 3 to consider the value of this new temple they had built, “Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?”
12. There were many in the remnant that were over 70 years old and would have remembered seeing the Temple raided and plundered, knowing that it was much more lavish in the days before the conquest of Jerusalem.
13. But even though this is a sad tale of a temple that was desecrated and plundered over the entire Davidic dynasty, we have to remember that the Ark of the Covenent, and more specifically, the Mercy Seat, was carried by the Israelites in a tent. So, God doesn’t need a Golden Temple to meet with his people, but he does instruct them to build him SOMEPLACE in which to meet with them.
14. “The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,” says the LORD of hosts.  They didn’t need to feel discouraged if they didn’t have enough money to fix up the Temple to its former value. They had to just boldly trust the God who owned every resource, and then give generously out of what they had.
15. Then God declares in verse 7, that he is going to shake up all of the nations and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory.
16. This is viewed by many Jewish scholars as Messianic and was fulfilled when Jesus Christ, riding on a donkey, visited the Temple and brought it ultimate glory by his very person.
17. Matthew 12:6 Jesus says, “But I say unto you, that one greater than the temple is here.”
18. Okay, so why are we now talking about holy meat? Haggai chapter 2 verse 12 asks, if we’re carrying some blessed steaks in our pocket, and they touch someone else’s chicken sandwich, is their sandwich now blessed? You see the priests were used to answering these kinds of questions.
19. And they answered correctly according to the Law of Moses: holiness is not contagious, but impurity is.  
    1. Basically, A sick child can’t catch health from being around a healthy child; but the healthy child can become sick if they’re around a sick child.
    2. Dirty water dirties up clean water, but clean water doesn’t clean up dirty water. See what I’m saying?
    3. On the same principle, living in the Holy Land and offering sacrifices does not make you right before God, if they themselves were spiritually unclean as reflected by neglect of the house of the LORD.
    4. Verses 20-22:  I will shake heaven and earth. I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms; I will destroy the strength of the Gentile kingdoms: It was easy for the returning exiles to feel insignificant in the world, since they were no longer a kingdom. And as we had talked about earlier, they had watched the Temple get dismantled piece by piece to placate the gentile world powers.
    5. What the Lord is saying here is what he showed us in Daniel chapter 2 with the giant multi-colored statue. As soon as Babylon came on the scene, they began what is knowns as the “Times of the Gentiles” this began with Babylon, then Persia, the Greece, and Rome.
    6. Since that time, there have been a number of Gentile super powers following the destruction of Rome, such as the French Kingdom, Ottoman Empire, the Papal states, Prussian, Dutch, and Polish Empires. Spanish and British empire, the United States and Soviet Union, and so on.
    7. But during all that time, David’s dynasty has never been reinstated after the Babylonian captivity.
    8. “I will overthrow the chariots and those who ride in them”: This word of encouragement shows us that God will remember His people and will fight for them at His second coming.
    9. Now verse 23 is especially interesting. He says, ‘In that day,’ says the LORD of hosts, ‘I will take you, Zerubbabel My servant, the son of Shealtiel,’ says the LORD, ‘and will make you like a signet ring; for I have chosen you,’ says the LORD of hosts.
    10. What is the world does that mean?
    11. For I have chosen you: Zerubbabel was truly chosen of God. In the ancestry of Jesus, Zerubbabel was the last person to be in both the line of Mary (the blood lineage of Jesus – [Luke 3:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+3.27&t=NKJV)) and Joseph (the legal lineage of Jesus in – [Matthew 1:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+1.12&t=NKJV)).
    12. God used these two different lines of ancestry for Jesus because God placed a curse on the seed of Jechoniah (also known as Coniah or Jehoiachin) as recorded in [Jeremiah 22:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+22.30&t=NKJV). That line was the royal line of David, so if the Messiah was to qualify for the throne of David (Luke 1), he had to be of the legal line of David.
20. **ii. Jechoniah was the last legitimate king of Judah and the Royal House of David goes through him. His only successor was Zedekiah, his uncle who was appointed not by right, but by Nebuchadnezzar (**[**2 Kings 24:17-20**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Kings+24.17-20&t=NKJV)**). Even at the end of his life, the Babylonians recognized Jechoniah as the legitimate king of Judah (**[**2 Kings 25:27-30**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Kings+25.27-30&t=NKJV)**)**
21. **iii. Because Zerubbabel was a descendant of the last legitimate king of Judah, he could be legitimately recognized as the governor, (though not king) of the returning exiles.**
22. **Many good scholars take this term “Signet Ring” to mean that Zerubbabel was now restoring the Davidic line and walking back the curse of Jechoniah. God pictured Jechoniah as a signet ring being removed from God’s finger (**[**Jeremiah 22:24**](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Jer%2022.24)**). But now recognizing Zerubbabel as his new Signet Ring, it implies that the Messianic line is restored.**
23. **There is another possibility. I’ll warn you that this is a minority view, but I think it is the better view for reasons that I’ll explain here:**
24. **When we look at those long chains of genealogies, we see that Matthew goes through the royal line down to Joseph, the legal father of Jesus Christ. In the first 17 verses of Matthew, he makes the case that Jesus had legal title to the Throne of David.**
25. **The Problem though is that The Messiah, the royal line, must be from the line of David (Ruth 4:22; 2 Sam 7:11-16). The succession of the kings of Judah proved to be, with only a few exceptions, a diminishing line of integrity. It gets so bad that by the time we get to Jeconiah, God finally pronounced a “blood curse” on him (Jer 22:30). Read this: none will sit on the throne of David**
26. **Do we get a loop-hole from the Virgin Birth?**
27. **Well, sort-of. There are many theological reasons for the Virgin Birth, but a side effect is that it provides a way around the blood curse on Jeconiah. But to understand why, we have to flip back to the book of Numbers to discover these 5 sisters that were all daughters of Zelophehad.**
28. **The daughters of Zelophehad was this strange story tucked away back in Numbers 27 where these gals realized that they were not going to be able to keep the land that was allocated to their father since he had no male hier. So they petitioned Moses for a special exemption, which was granted when they entered the land under Joshua. As long as they married within their tribe, they could inherit on behalf of their father. “What Zelophehad’s daughters are saying is right. You must certainly give them property as an inheritance among their father’s relatives and give their father’s inheritance to them.”**
29. **C.I. Scofield was the first to note that the claims of Christ rely upon this peculiar exception granted to the family of Zelophehad in the Torah.**
30. **So Heli, Mary’s father apparently had no listed sons, and Mary married within the tribe of Judah.**
31. **So Heli could legally adopt his son-in-law (Ezra 2:61; Neh 7:63; Num 32:41, cf. 1 Chr 2:21-22, 34-35; Num 27:3-8). Joseph was the son-in-law (nomizo) of Heli.**
32. **So, Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, of the house and lineage of David and carrying legal title to the line, but without the blood curse of Jeconiah.**
33. **See, there is so much we can learn even from a tiny little book like Haggai.**
34. **Thank you for tuning in to another episode of “Waterbrook Sermons, Revisited”.   
      
      
    This has been a production of the Waterbrook Digital Network.**

--THE END—

WRITER/DIRECTORS NOTES FOR “Pilot Episode”

1. Guiding Principles of this Podcast:  
   1. The purpose of this Podcast is to provide a weekly Bible study that glorifies Jesus Christ. I must be less; Jesus must be more. (John 3:30)
   2. I intend to demonstrate unity between what I say during the podcast and Biblical positions Waterbrook presently takes, and has taken, as evidenced by the sermons referenced.
   3. Referenced Sermons will always be used germane with the Biblical text. Sermons speak on their own behalf and will not be used to serve or derive any commentary on my part.
   4. As time allows, We will go verse-by-verse, providing exegesis of a passage in its original context.
   5. I will introduce each Waterbrook sermon, its speaker, title and publication date so that anyone may refer to the original at any time.
   6. I will always serve under the approval, veto, and hermeneutical opinion of Waterbrook staff or teaching pastoral team on any podcast produced as part of the Waterbrook Digital Network.
   7. I will keep an exhaustive list of bibliography to support any commentary on my part. Any sermon notes, extra material, or borrowed books are always welcome.

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