

“Unshakable Hope”

On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Haggai: “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘Ask the priests what the law says: If someone carries consecrated meat in the fold of their garment, and that fold touches some bread or stew, some wine, olive oil or other food, does it become consecrated?’ The priests answered, “No.” Then Haggai said, “If a person defiled by contact with a dead body touches one of these things, does it become defiled?” “Yes,” the priests replied, “it becomes defiled.” Then Haggai said, “‘So it is with this people and this nation in my sight,’ declares the LORD. ‘Whatever they do and whatever they offer there is defiled. “Now give careful thought to this from this day on—consider how things were before one stone was laid on another in the LORD’s temple. When anyone came to a heap of twenty measures, there were only ten. When anyone went to a wine vat to draw fifty measures, there were only twenty. I struck all the work of your hands with blight, mildew and hail, yet you did not return to me,’ declares the LORD. ‘From this day on, from this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, give careful thought to the day when the foundation of the LORD’s temple was laid. Give careful thought: Is there yet any seed left in the barn? Until now, the vine and the fig tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree have not borne fruit.

“From this day on I will bless you.”

Haggai 2:10-19

I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

- Psalm 16:8

1. Holiness and Obedience to God Inspires Unshakable Hope.

Then Haggai said, “So it is with this people and this nation in my sight,” declares the LORD. ‘Whatever they do and whatever they offer there is defiled.

Haggai 2:14

a. Sin leads to hopelessness.

“Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.”

Ephesians 2:12

b. Obedience brings God’s blessing.

When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

Luke 5:4-6

2. Unshakable Hope is Renewed by Remembering.

“Now give careful thought to this from this day on—consider how things were before one stone was laid on another in the LORD’s temple.”

Haggai 2:15

a. Remembering God’s faithfulness.

“I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.”

Psalm 77:11

b. Remembering God’s previous victories.

“I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds.”

Psalm 77: 12

He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

-1 Thessalonians 5:24

3. Unshakable Hope Requires Trust.

“I am giving you a promise now while the seed is still in the barn. You have not yet harvested your grain, and your grapevines, fig trees, pomegranates, and olive trees have not yet produced their crops. But from this day onward I will bless you.”

Haggai 2:19 (NLT)

a. Trusting in God’s Plan.

“From this day on, from this twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, give careful thought to the day when the foundation of the LORD’s temple was laid.”

Haggai 2:18

b. Trusting God’s Word.

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But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Romans 8:25

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