

# A Visitor's Guide to the Old Testament

## A Quick Discussion Guide on the Book of Haggai

1. There are TWELVE Minor Prophets... we have studied TEN of them to this point. Identify *at least one* distinctive feature for each of the Minor Prophets we have studied so far:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hosea:</li><li>• Joel:</li><li>• Amos:</li><li>• Obadiah:</li><li>• Jonah:</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Micah:</li><li>• Nahum:</li><li>• Habakkuk:</li><li>• Zephaniah:</li><li>• Haggai:</li></ul> |
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2. One might imagine the following preached by Robert Tilton, Joel Osteen, Creflo Dollar, Kenneth Copeland, and the like...

“You have to put God first! You have to show God you love Him! You have to be willing to sacrifice if you’re going to be blessed! That’s why I’m begging you to put that \$100 in the mail today. Or even that \$1,000. You say you’re too poor? You don’t have that kind of money? Well, maybe the reason you’re poor is because you haven’t put God first! Maybe He’s holding back financial blessing just to teach you that God and His ministries have got to come first! Oh, yes, that’s the pattern, brother and sister. Give to God first, even when it’s a sacrifice. And then, yes, *then*, God will bless you.”

Discuss: What is your reaction to that kind of appeal? What is right about it? What seems off? Would you send that \$100 or \$1,000? Why, or why not?

3. Write your memory passage below:

4. “Priorities” might be a tagline for Haggai’s message. Evaluate the priorities of the returning exiles according to Haggai’s descriptions:

Evaluate and illustrate the priorities of Jesus according to the New Testament writers:

Evaluate and illustrate the priorities of 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Christians:

5. How does Haggai make the Temple an expansive focal point for the remnant? Discuss the place of “temple” (i.e., church/worship) among us.