

“Making His House... HIS Home”

Haggai 1:1-15

September 6, 2015

INTRO:

VIDEO: “*Field of Dreams*”

“If you **BUILD** it... he/they will come...” (iconic fiction)

“If **HE** builds it... **HE** will come.” (inspired fact)

Welcome to our NEW place of worship & service...

Welcome to God’s new:

Acts 1:8 Outreach & Equipping Center

T/S: You may have noticed that I intentionally referred to our new church building as:

“**God’s... Act’s 1:8 Outreach & Equipping Ctr.**”

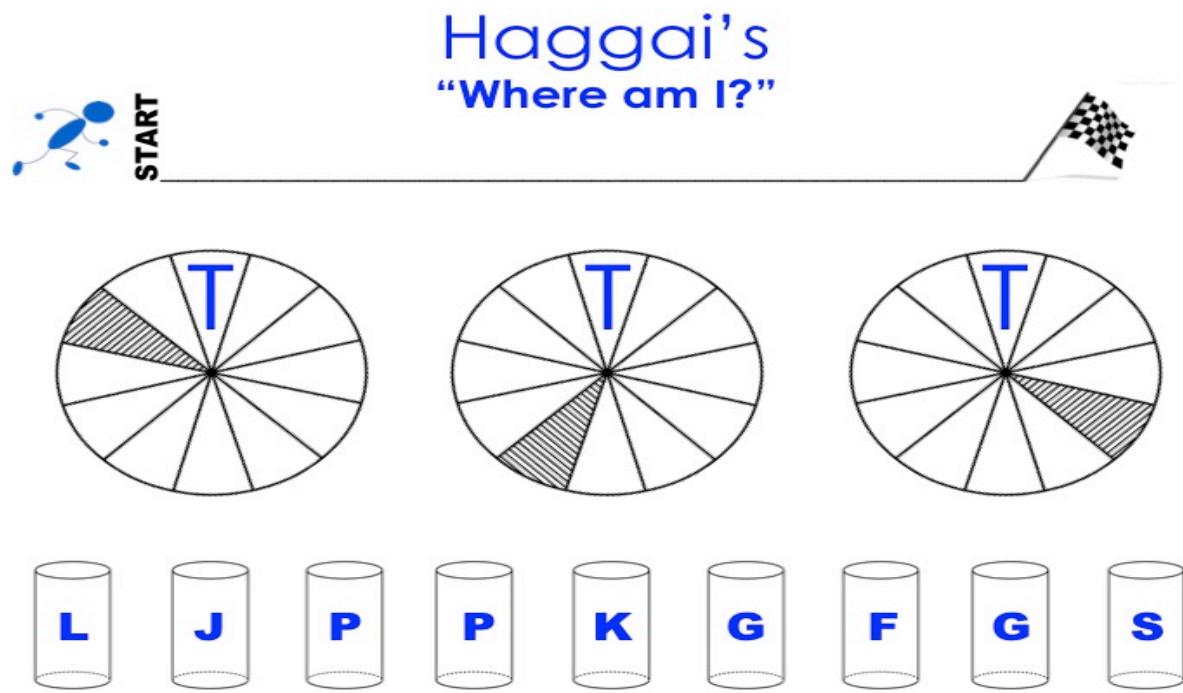
Today's Sermon Title is:
“Making His House... HIS Home”

There's an incredible biblical parallel... us & the O.T.

*...God's people (like us) are allowed
to build Him a new house...*

Where are we:

1. Macro/Christianity
2. Micro/Church
3. Mission/Christian



In the reality of the blessing, God gives His people a:

- Warning
- Wake-up call
- “Wonderful-With” promise :-)

CONTEXT: **Massive Macro...**

1. Genesis 1:1 & John 1:1
2. Genesis 3:1-15 & John 3:3 &16 & 36
3. Flood & Noah
4. Family & Abe
5. 12 Tribes & Joseph
6. Enslaved in Egypt
7. Moses & the Exodus
8. 40 years in the dessert
9. Joshua, Caleb & the Promised Land
10. Judges & Samuel
11. David...
12. Solomon & the "original Temple"
13. Kings & a Divided kingdom
14. Dispersion (N) in 722 & Exile (S) in 586
15. Return & Rebuild
16. Silence for 400 years
17. John the Baptist & Jesus come...
18. Christ's ministry, death, resurrection
19. Acts (Person, Promise, Power,
 Proclamation, Persecution,
 Perseverance)
20. We Worship, Witness, & Wait

Moderately Macro (Ezra)

VIDEO: “*Ezra*”

T/S: Haggai 2:9 (per Ezra Video)

Illustration:

- Saint Chappelle vs Notre Dame
- SBTS apartment vs. Wooster house

Ezra:

Ch. 1:1-3,5,7

¹ *In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing:*

² *"This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah.*

³ *Anyone of his people among you--may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem.*

⁵ Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites--everyone whose heart God had moved--prepared to go up and build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem.

⁷ Moreover, King Cyrus brought out the articles belonging to the temple of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and had placed in the temple of his god.

Ch. 3 (1-3, 8, 10-13)

¹ When the seventh month came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, **the people assembled as one man in Jerusalem.**

² Then Jeshua son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and his associates **began to build the altar of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses the man of God.**

³ Despite their fear of the peoples around them, **they built the altar on its foundation and sacrificed burnt offerings on it to the LORD, both the morning and evening sacrifices.**

⁸ In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Jeshua son of Jozadak and the rest of their

brothers (the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the work, appointing Levites twenty years of age and older to supervise the building of the house of the LORD.

¹⁰ *When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David king of Israel.*

¹¹ *With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD: "He is good; his love to Israel endures forever." And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.*

¹² *But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy.*

¹³ *No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.*

Ch. 4:1-6 (beware false friends); v.23-24 (work stops!)

¹ When the enemies of Judah and Benjamin heard that the exiles were building a temple for the LORD, the God of Israel,

² they came to Zerubbabel and to the heads of the families and said, "Let us help you build because, like you, we seek your God and have been sacrificing to him..."

³ But Zerubbabel, Jeshua and the rest of the heads of the families of Israel answered, "You have no part with us in building a temple to our God..."

⁴ Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building.

⁵ They hired counselors to work against them and frustrate their plans...

⁶ At the beginning of the reign of Xerxes, they lodged an accusation against the people of Judah and Jerusalem.

²³ ... they went immediately to the Jews in Jerusalem and compelled them by force to stop.

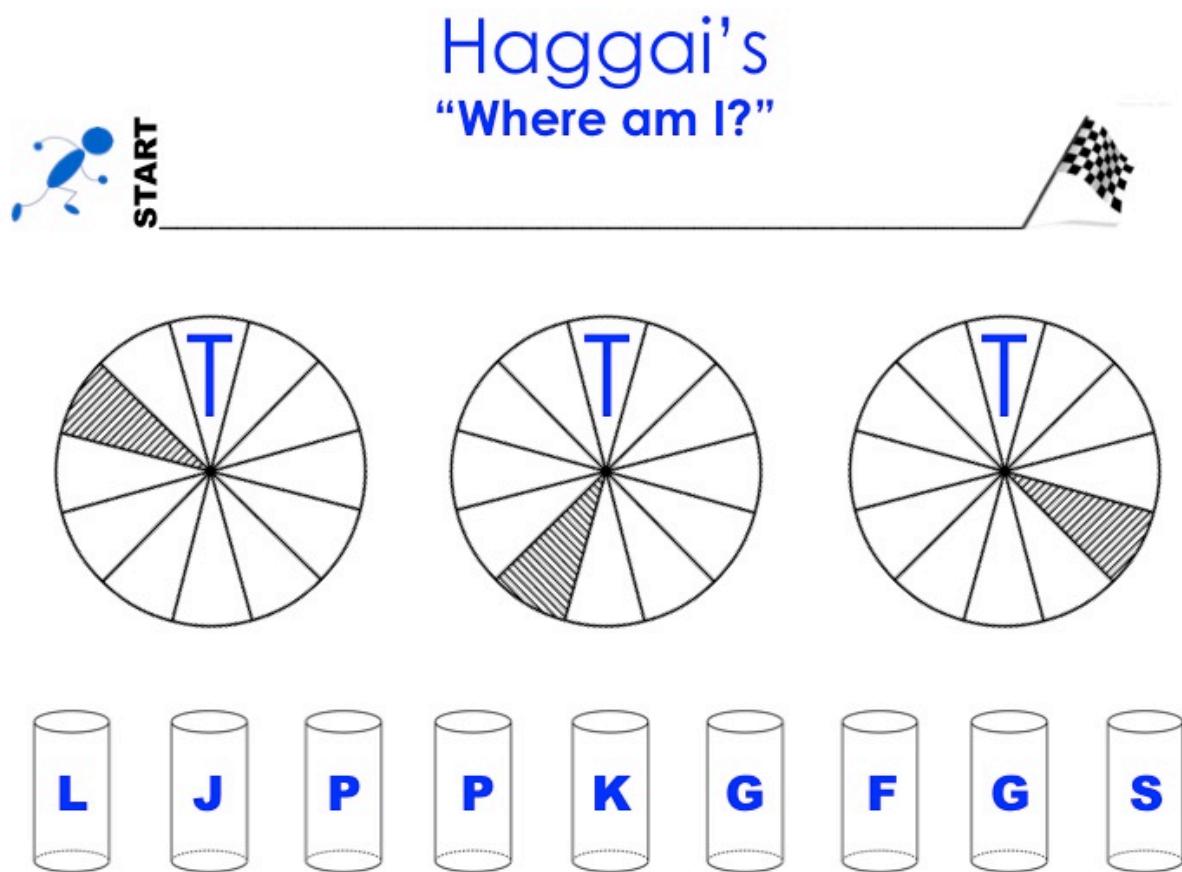
²⁴ Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Ch. 5:1-2 (leads into Haggai)

*Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet... prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, **who was over them**.*

² Then Zerubbabel... and Jeshua... set to work to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them, helping them.

Micro (Haggai)



“Going to Jerusalem” = “Going to church”

“BE-ing God’s people” = “BE-ing the Church”

T/S:

¹ *In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest:*

² *This is what the LORD Almighty says: "These people say, 'The time has not yet come for the LORD's house to be built.'"*

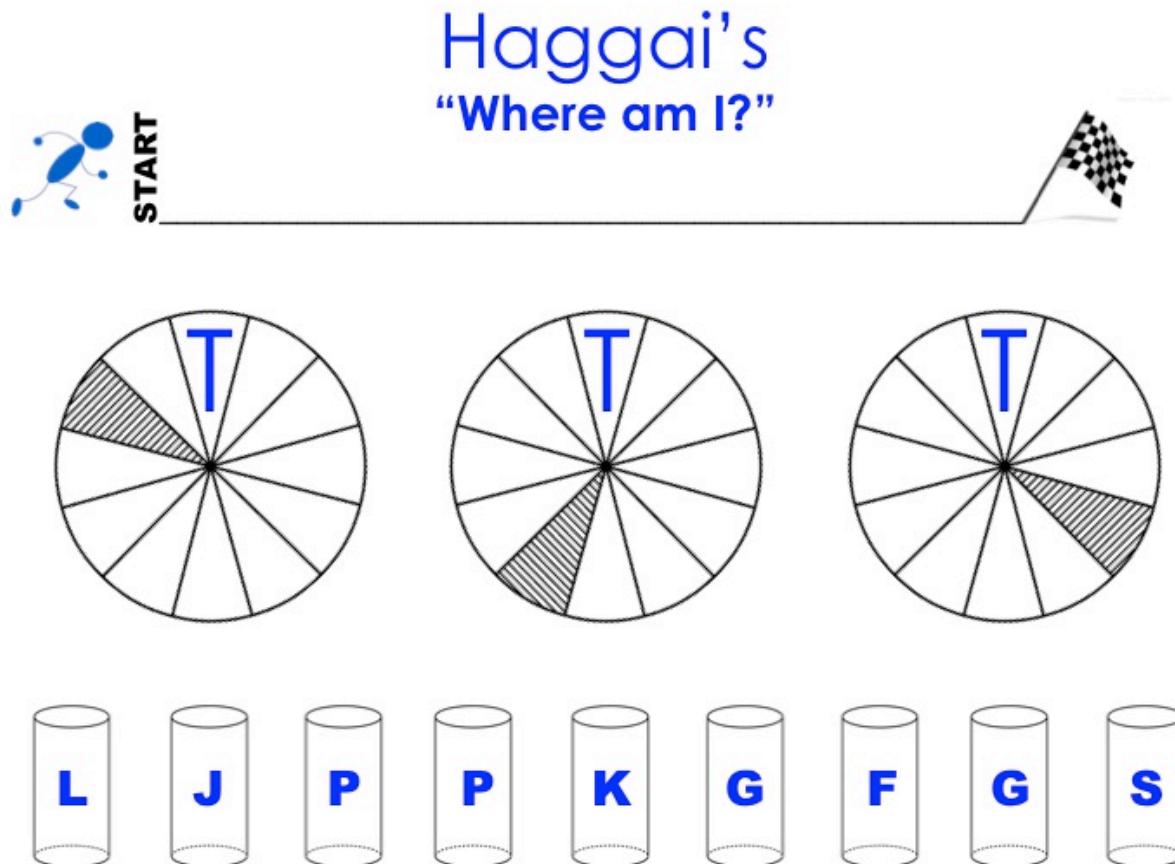
- **Do you realize He's the Land-Lord?**
- Or do you treat Him like He's your:
 - Butler
 - Paper boy
 - Local fire-fighter
 - Pizza delivery guy
 - Crazy neighbor
 - “Nice” neighbor
 - Babysitter

- Handyman
- Cable/TV guy...

³ Then the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai:

⁴ "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"

Where are YOU... in your life's MISSION?



⁵ Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways.

⁶ You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."

⁷ This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways.

Want-to + Worship + Walk = Peace & Blessing

⁸ Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored," says the LORD.

⁹ "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the LORD Almighty. "Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with his own house.

What do YOU want?

WHAT do you want?

What do you WANT?

VIDEO: “God’s Pie”

¹⁰ Therefore, because of you the heavens have withheld their dew and the earth its crops.

¹¹ I called for a drought on the fields and the mountains, on the grain, the new wine, the oil and whatever the ground produces, on men and cattle, and on the labor of your hands."

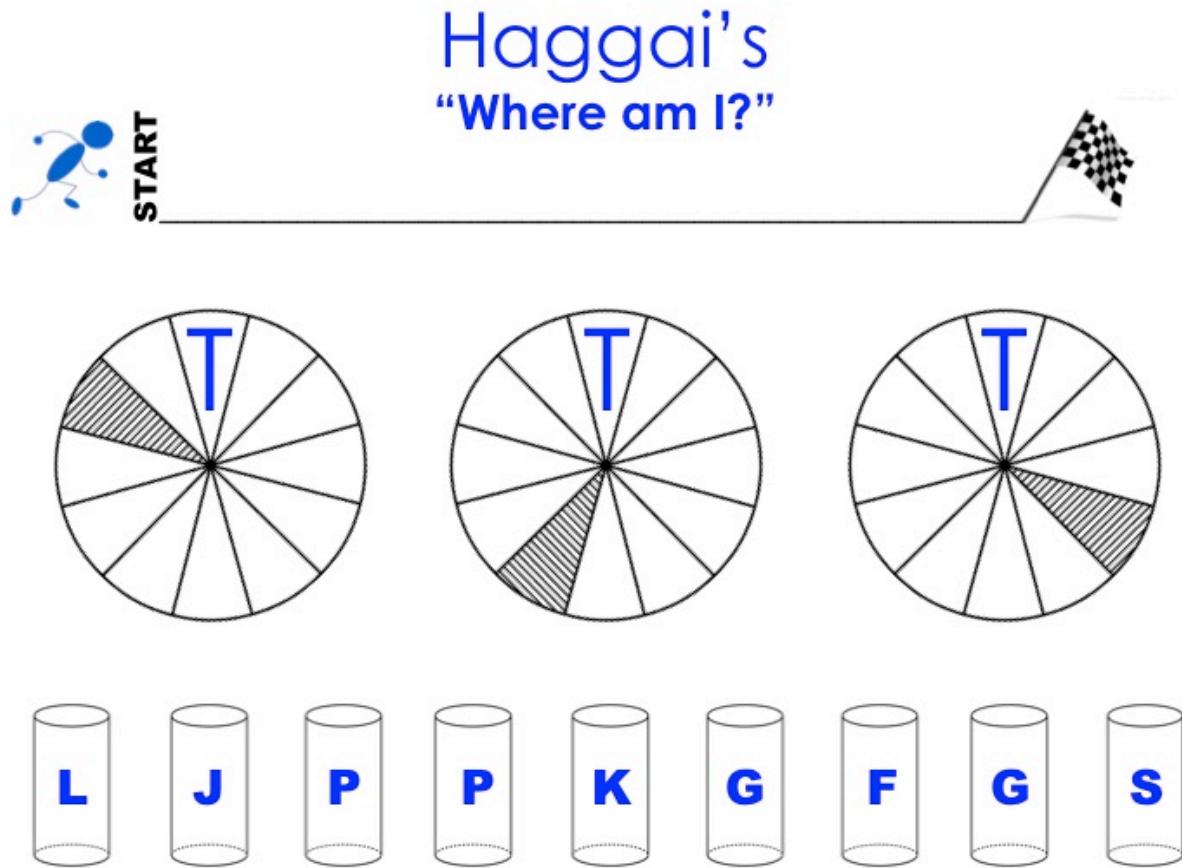
¹² Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the LORD their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the LORD their God had sent him. And the people feared the LORD.

VIDEO: “Come & See” (BRIDGE in St.J)

¹³ Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, gave this message of the LORD to the people: "I am with you," declares the LORD.

Who are you (really) with?

God “with you” = Fruit of the Spirit!



¹⁴ So the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of the whole remnant of the people. They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty, their God..... ¹⁵ on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month in the second year of King Darius.

VIDEO: **Sathyma Ministries (India)**

**“If HE builds it...
He (and His people)
will come.”**

i.e Moses Kigozi...
(Kampala, Uganda)



One FAITH. One FAMILY. One FOCUS.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will BE My witnesses (locally, regionally, and globally).” – Acts 1:8

One Question: **WHAT DO YOU WANT?**

One Offer: **COME AND SEE.**

One Promise: **TRUTH IN LOVE!**

Our Truth-in-Love Distinctives: We are...

- 1.** Responding to grace & repenting of sin...
- 2.** Trusting the Bible & obeying God's Word...
- 3.** Growing in-Christ & living Spirit-led...
- 4.** Praying for guidance & following by faith...
- 5.** Dying to self & carrying our cross...
- 6.** BE-ing the Church & loving one another...(*truly loving* one another)
- 7.** Equipping the saints & exemplifying supernatural unity...
- 8.** Ministering as ambassadors & discerning matters shrewdly...
- 9.** Worshipping God vertically & experiencing Him horizontally...
- 10.** Proclaiming the Gospel (*no matter what*) & fishing for men...
- 11.** Making discipled-warriors & winning spiritual-warfare...
- 12.** Loving our King & serving His kingdom!

1. Where are you...

- a. Macro?
- b. Micro?
- c. Mission?

2. What do you want?

- a. Time
- b. Talent
- c. Treasure

3. Who are you (really) with?

- a. Fruit of the Spirit
- b. Love
- c. Joy
- d. Peace
- e. Patience
- f. Goodness
- g. Faithfulness (a.k.a. "courage")
- h. Kindness
- i. Self-Control

Let's Pray!