

Haggai 2:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD:

Analysis

And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the LORD (וַעֲתָה שִׁימוּ־נָא לִבְבְּכֶם מִן־הַיּוֹם/ve'attah simu-na levavkhem min-hayom hazeh vama'lah miterem sum-even el-even beheikhal YHWH)—God calls for reflection: **consider** (שִׁימוּ לִבְבְּכֶם/simu levavkhem, "set your heart upon," as in 1:5, 7) the time **before** (מִתְחַלֵּם/miterem) they resumed building. Look back at the futility and connect it to spiritual cause. **From before a stone was laid upon a stone**—when the foundation sat abandoned, when no progress was being made, when they prioritized their own houses—remember that season's frustration.

This retrospective evaluation serves to demonstrate God's covenant faithfulness: when they neglected His house, He disciplined them with futility; now that they've resumed building (though still spiritually defiled, v.14), He will begin blessing (v.19). The transition point is **this day** (הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה/hayom hazeh)—the day God's word came (v.10, December 18, 520 BC), marking a turning point from curse to blessing based on renewed obedience.

Historical Context

For sixteen years (536-520 BC), the temple foundation lay untouched while the people built their own houses. That entire period was characterized by economic futility, drought, and frustration (1:6, 9-11). Three months after resuming work

(September to December 520 BC), God calls them to compare past futility with coming blessing, establishing the connection between obedience and divine favor.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does reflecting on past seasons of frustration or discipline help you recognize God's corrective work and renew commitment to obedience?
2. What patterns of cause-and-effect do you see in your spiritual life between priorities/obedience and experiencing God's blessing or discipline?
3. How does marking specific dates or moments of decision help memorialize God's faithfulness and your commitments?

Interlinear Text

וְעַתָּה

H6258

שׁוּם

And now I pray you consider

H7760

נָ א

H4994

לְבַבְךָ מִ

H3824

מִן

H4480

הַיּוֹם

from this day

H3117

הַזֶּה

H2088

וְעַלֶּה

and upward

H4605

מִפְּנֵי

from before

H2962

שׁוּם

And now I pray you consider

H7760

אֶבֶן

a stone

H68

אֶל

H413

אֶבֶן

a stone

H68

בְּהֵיכַל

in the temple

H1964

יְהוָה:

of the LORD

H3068

Additional Cross-References

Haggai 1:5 (References Lord): Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

Ezra 3:10 (Temple): And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

Ezra 4:24 (Parallel theme): Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Haggai 2:18 (Temple): Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the LORD'S temple was laid, consider it.

Haggai 1:7 (References Lord): Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

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