

Haggai 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.

Analysis

Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you (הַעוֹד הַזֶּרַע בַּמְּגוּרָה וְעַד־הַגֶּפֶן וְהַתְּאֵנָה וְהָרִמּוֹן וְעֵץ הַזַּיִת לֹא נִשָּׂא מִן־הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה אָבְרָהָה) / ha'od hazera bamegurah ve'ad-hagefen vehate'enah veharimon ve'etz hazayit lo nasa min-hayom hazeh avarekh)—God asks rhetorical questions expecting "yes" answers: **Is the seed yet in the barn?** Yes—it's winter, planting season for grain. **The vine, fig tree, pomegranate, olive tree—have they produced?** No—winter is the dormant season before spring budding and summer fruit.

The point: they haven't yet seen tangible results from resumed obedience. It's only been three months since work resumed, and it's winter—no visible agricultural change. Yet God promises: **from this day will I bless you** (מִן־הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה אָבְרָהָה / min-hayom hazeh avarekh). The blessing is declared before visible results appear. Faith trusts God's word when circumstances haven't yet changed. The vine, fig, pomegranate, and olive—Israel's characteristic fruit crops (Deuteronomy 8:8)—will bear abundantly in coming seasons because God has pronounced blessing.

This principle operates throughout Scripture: obedience precedes visible blessing, requiring faith to trust God's promise before seeing results. Abraham left Ur before receiving the land. Israel marched around Jericho before walls fell. Jesus's disciples left nets before seeing ministry fruit. God's kingdom operates on faith,

not sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). Blessing is secured by God's word, not by visible circumstances.

Historical Context

The ninth month (Kislev, November-December) was winter in Israel—between fall planting and spring growth. No fruit was visible yet. But God's promise assured that the coming growing season would be dramatically different from the previous sixteen years of futility. When spring came and crops grew, when summer brought harvest, they would remember God's word spoken in winter and recognize His faithfulness.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How do you sustain obedience and faithfulness when you don't yet see visible results or blessings from following God?
2. What does it mean to trust God's promise of blessing even when circumstances ("seed still in the barn") haven't yet changed?
3. How does God's timing—declaring blessing in winter before spring growth—test and develop faith that believes His word over visible reality?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| הַע וֹד H5750 | הֵן רֵעַ H2233 | בַּמְּגוּרָה הַ H4035 | וְעַד H5704 | הֵן כֶּן H1612 | וְהִתְאַן הַ H8384 |
| | Is the seed | yet in the barn | yea as yet the vine | and the fig tree | |
| וְהָרֵמ וֹן H7416 | וְעֵץ H6086 | הֵן יֵת H2132 | ל א H3808 | נֶשֶׁא א H5375 | מִן H4480 |
| and the pomegranate | tree | and the olive | | hath not brought forth | |
| הַיּוֹם H3117 | הֵן הַ H2088 | אֶבְרָכָה: H1288 | | | |
| from this day | | will I bless | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Malachi 3:10 (Blessing): Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Matthew 6:33 (Parallel theme): But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Psalms 84:12 (Blessing): O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Deuteronomy 15:10 (Blessing): Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.

Genesis 26:12 (Blessing): Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.

Psalms 133:3 (Blessing): As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

