

Rebuild the Temple

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Go Up to the Mountain, and Bring Wood, and Build the House

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts; consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house...” (Haggai 1:7~8)

The Worker to Respect God

The Lord’s word came upon Prophet Haggai and the message which commanded them to instruct Israelites to rebuild the temple was delivered to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest. However, Israelites replied, “The time is not come.” (Haggai 1:2) God spoke to them through the mouth of prophet, “Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.” (Haggai 1:4-6)

Zerubbabel and Joshua are the chosen workers of God. God also mentioned Joshua through Prophet Zechariah, “O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?” Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. He answered and spoke unto those who stood before him, saying, “I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.” So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. (Zechariah 3:2~5) While mentioning Zerubbabel, God said, “Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:9~10)

Eliakim was an important vessel used by God (2 King 18, 19; Isaiah 25:15~25). Before he became the treasurer, Shebna was the treasurer with exclusive authority. Later on the government was committed from Shebna to Eliakim. “And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah: And I will clothe him with thy robe...” “And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder.” (Isaiah 22:20~22)

Two Anointed Ones

Prophet Zechariah answered the angel and said, “What are these, my lord” (Zechariah 4:2~3) Again, Zechariah answered and said unto the angel, “What be these two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves?” (Zechariah 4:11~12) The angel answered him and said, “Knowest thou not what these be?”, “These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.” (Zechariah 4:13~14)

According to the records in chapter 11 of Revelation, it says “Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.” Two witnesses are the two olive trees, the two lamp stands (Revelation 11:1~4)

At that time, Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the rest of Israelites all obeyed to the Lord. They all were submissive to words of their God and the message brought by Haggai who was sent from God. Israel people all had the hearts of reverence in the presence of the Lord. The Lord compelled the hearts of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the rest of Israelites, so they all worked for the matter of rebuilding the temple for the Lord of hosts, their God.

The Glory of the New Temple

The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former (Haggai 2:9). And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And many people shall go and say ‘Come ye’ and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. (Isaiah 2:2~5)