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Open English Translation of the Bible

Hagay

Introduction

This document contains a number of messages from Yahweh that the prophet Hagay passed on to the people in Yerushalem (Jerusalem). These events happened around 520 before Yeshua/Jesus (B.C.), after many of God's people had gone back to Yerushalem after being taken into captivity in Bavel. However, even though they'd been back for a considerable time, they hadn't worked on rebuilding the temple. Therefore, these messages from Yahweh encourage the people to change their priorities and obey God and rebuild the temple. God then promised to prosper the people and bless their living situation.

Main components of this account

God's command to rebuild the temple *1:1-15*
Stories of comfort and hope *2:1-23*

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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Readers' Version

God's command to rebuild the temple

1:1 In Dareyavesh's (Darius') second year as king of Paras (Persia), on the 1st of the sixth month, the prophet Hagay brought Yahweh's message to the governor of Yehudah (Judah), Zerubavel (Shealtiyel's son), and to the high priest, Yehoshua (Joshua) (Yehotsadak's son),[1] telling them that **2** Commander-in-chief Yahweh says, "These people say that it's not the right time to rebuild Yahweh's residence."

3 Then Yahweh gave this message to the prophet Hagay to tell the people:
4 Is it a time for all of you to live in your panelled houses, while Yahweh's temple lies in ruins? **5** So now Commander-in-chief Yahweh says: "Decide what you're all going to do. **6** You've all planted a lot, but only harvested a little. You've eaten, but it never fills you. You all drink, but never enough to satisfy you. You put on clothes, but never feel warm enough. You earn wages, but your pockets seem to be full of holes."

7 So Commander-in-chief Yahweh says again: "Decide what you're all going to do. **8** Go up into the hills and bring back timber to build the temple. This will please and honour me," says Yahweh.

9 "You expected much, but gained little. Anything you brought home, I blew away again. Why? Commander-in-chief Yahweh says it's because my residence is still in ruins, while you're all busy working on your own houses. **10** That's why the sky withholds the dew and the soil withholds its crops. **11** I've summoned a drought onto the land and into the hills, onto the grain and the new wine, onto the oil and crops from the ground, onto both people and livestock, and onto everything you all do."

The people start rebuilding

12 Then Shealtiyel's son Zerubavel and Yehotsadak's son Yehoshua (Joshua), the high priest, and all the rest of the people listened to the voice of their god Yahweh via the words of the prophet Hagay, because Yahweh their god had sent him, and the people respected Yahweh. **13** Then Yahweh's messenger Hagay passed this message from Yahweh onto the people, "Yahweh declares that I'm with you all." **14** Then Yahweh inspired Shealtiyel's son Zerubavel, the governor of Yehudah (Judah), inspired Yehotsadak's son Yehoshua, the high priest, and inspired all the rest of the people, and they came and started work on the temple for their god, Commander-in-chief Yahweh, **15** on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth month of the second year of Dareyavesh (Darius) the king of Paras (Persia).

Literal Version

1:1 In_year two of_Dārəyāvesh the_king in_month the_sixth in/on_day one of_month the_message_of **YHWH** it_came by_ _the_hand_of Ḥaggay the_prophet to Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl the_governor_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_near/to Yəhōshūʻa/(Joshua) the_son_of Yəhōtsādāq/(Jehozadak) the_ _priest/officer (the)_great to_say. **2** Thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says to_say the_people the_this they_have_said not a_time_of to_come the_time_of the_ _house_of **YHWH** to_be_rebuilt. **3** And_ the_message_of **YHWH** _he/it_was by_the_hand_of Ḥaggay the_prophet to_ _say. **4** Does_a_time to/for_you(pl) you(pl) to_dwell in_ _houses_of_your(pl) panelled and_the_house the_this is_ _desolate. **5** And_now thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_ _says set heart_of_your(pl) on ways_of_your(pl). **6** You(pl)_ _have_sown much and_you_have_brought little you_have_ _eaten and_not it_was_to_be_satisfied you_have_drunk and_ _not it_was_to_become_drunk you_have_dressed and_not it_ _was_to_be_warm to_him/it and_the_one_who_earns_wages is_earning_wages to a_bag pierced. **7** Thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says set heart_of_your(pl) on ways_ _of_your(pl). **8** Go_up the_hill_country and_you(pl)_will_ _bring wood and_rebuild the_house that_I_may_take_ _pleasure in/on/over_him/it and[2] **YHWH** he_says. **9** You_ _turned_to_look to much and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE (into)_little and_you(pl)_brought_it the_house and_I_blew in_him/it because_of what the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers because_of house_of_my which it is_ _desolate and_you(pl) are_running each to_his_own_of_ _house. **10** Therefore yes/correct/thus/so on_you(pl) the_ _heavens they_have_withheld[3][4][5] from_dew and_the_earth it_ _has_withheld produce_of_its. **11** And_I_have_summoned a_ _drought on the_earth/land and_on the_mountains and_on the_grain and_on the_new_wine and_on the_fresh_oil and_on that_which the_soil it_will_bring_forth and_on the_ _humankind and_on the_cattle/livestock and_on all_of the_ _toil_of hands.

12 And_he/it_listened Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl and_ _Yəhōshūʻa/(Joshua) the_son_of Yəhōtsādāq/(Jehozadak) the_priest/officer (the)_great and_all/each/any/every the_ _remnant_of the_people to_the_voice_of **YHWH** god_of_their and_to the_words/messages_of Ḥaggay the_prophet just_as he_had_sent_him **YHWH** god_of_their and_ the_people _ _they_were_afraid from_face/in_front_of **YHWH**. **13** And_ Ḥaggay the_messenger_of **YHWH** _he/it_said by_the_ _message_of **YHWH** to_people to_say I am_with_you(pl) the_ _utterance_of **YHWH**. **14** And_ **YHWH** _he_stirred_up ~~DOM~~ the_spirit_of Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl the_governor_ _of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_~~DOM~~ the_spirit_of Yəhōshūʻa the_ _son_of Yəhōtsādāq the_priest/officer (the)_great and_~~DOM~~ the_spirit_of all_of the_remnant_of the_people and_they_ _came and_they_made work in_house_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers god_of_their. **15** In/on_day twenty and_ _four of_month in_month in_year two of_Dārəyāvesh the_ _king.

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1 **RV 1:1 · Cross-ref.** Ezr 4:24–5:2; 6:14.

2 **LV 1:8 · Note** OSHB variant note: דבכא/ו: (x-qere) וָֽהַדְבְּכֵ֣א/וְ: lemma_c/3513 n_0.0 morph_HC/VNh1cs id_37iy2 וָֽהַדְבְּכֵ֣א/וְ

3 **LV 1:10 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

4 **LV 1:10 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more consonants in L differently from BHS.

5 **LV 1:10 · Note** OSHB note: Marks an anomalous form.

Literal Version

2:1 In_month on_day_twenty and_one of_month the_ _message_of **YHWH** it_came by_the_hand_of Ḥaggay the_ _prophet to_say. **2** Say please to Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl the_governor_of Yəhūdāh and_near/to Yəhōshūʿa the_son_of Yəhōtsādāq the_priest/officer (the)_great and_ _near/to the_remnant_of the_people to_say. **3** Who among_ _you(pl) is_the_one_who_remains who he_saw ~~ĐOM~~ the_house the_this in_splendour_of_its (the)_former and_what are_ _you(pl) seeing ~~ĐOM~~_him/it now am_not is_as_it as_nothing in_eyes_of_your(pl). **4** And_now be_strong Oh_Zərubāvel the_ _utterance_of **YHWH** and_be_strong Oh_Yəhōshūʿa/(Joshua) the_son_of Yəhōtsādāq/(Jehozadak) the_priest/officer (the)_ _great and_be_strong Oh_all_of the_people_of the_earth/land the_utterance_of **YHWH** and_work if/because I am_with_ _you(pl) the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers. **5** ~~ĐOM~~ the_message which I_cut with_you(pl) when_you_came_out from_Miṣrayim/(Egypt) and_spirit_of_my is_standing among_you(pl) do_not be_afraid. **6** If/because thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says yet one_time is_a_little it and_I am_about_to_shake ~~ĐOM~~ the_heavens and_~~ĐOM~~ the_ _earth/land and_~~ĐOM~~ the_sea and_~~ĐOM~~ the_dry_ground. **7** And_I_will_shake ~~ĐOM~~ all_of the_nations and_ the_precious_ _thing_of all_of the_nations _they_will_come and_I_will_fill ~~ĐOM~~ the_house the_this splendour **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says. **8** To_me the_silver and_ _belongs_to_me the_gold the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers. **9** Great it_will_be the_splendour_of the_house the_this (the)_latter more_than the_former **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says and_in_place the_this I_will_ _give peace the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers. **10** On_day_twenty and_four of_month in_year two of_ _Dārəyāvesh the_message_of **YHWH** it_came to Ḥaggay the_ _prophet to_say. **11** Thus **YHWH** soldiers/messengers he_says ask please ~~ĐOM~~ the_priests instruction to_say. **12** THERE someone he_will_carry flesh_of holiness in_the_skirt_of his_ _garment_of_his and_he_will_touch with_skirt_of_his (to) (the)_bread and_near/to (the)_cooked_food and_near/to (the)_wine and_near/to oil and_near/to every_of food will_ _it_become_holy and_ the_priests _they_answered and_they_ _said no. **13** And_ Ḥaggay _he/it_said if a_person_unclean_of a_corpse he_will_touch in_all these_things will_it_become_ _unclean and_ the_priests _they_answered and_they_said it_ _will_become_unclean. **14** And_ Ḥaggay _he_answered and_ _he/it_said is_thus the_people the_this and_thus/so/as_ _follows the_nation the_this to/for_my_face/front the_ _utterance_of **YHWH** and_thus/so/as_follows all_of the_ _work_of their_hands_of_their and_which they_will_bring_ _near there is_unclean it. **15** And_now set please heart_of_ _your(pl) from the_day the_this and_upwards from_before put a_stone to a_stone in_(the)_palace of_**YHWH**. **16** From_ _when_they_were someone_came to a_heap_of twenty_ _measures and_it_was ten someone_came to the_wine-vat to_ _draw fifty_measures a_winepress and_it_was twenty. **17** I_ _struck you(pl) with_blight and_with_mildew and_with_hail ~~ĐOM~~ all_of the_work_of your_two's_hands_of_your(pl) and_ _not you(pl) to_me the_utterance_of **YHWH**. **18** Set please heart_of_your(pl) from the_day the_this and_upwards from_

Readers' Version

The splendour of the new temple

2:1 On the 21st of the seventh month (about a month later), Yahweh spoke again through the prophet Hagay: **2** Please ask Shealtiyel's son Zerubavel, the governor of Yehudah (Judah), and ask Yehotsadak's son Yehoshua (Joshua), the high priest, and ask the rest of the people, **3** "Are there any of you still alive who saw the splendour of the former temple? How does it look to you now? It must now seem pretty much like *nothing* in comparison.[6] **4** Yahweh is telling you now, Zerubavel, to be strong. And be strong, high priest Yehoshua, and be strong all you people of the land. Commander-in-chief Yahweh declares that I'm with you as you work. **5** That's what I promised your ancestors when they came out of Mitsrayim (Egypt), and my spirit remains among you.[7] Don't be afraid, **6** because Commander-in-chief Yahweh says that in a little while, I'll shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land, once more.[8] **7** I'll shake all the nations, and they'll come here bringing their treasure. Then I'll fill this temple with my splendour, says Commander-in-chief Yahweh. **8** Commander-in-chief Yahweh declares that the gold and silver belong to me. **9** I declare that this temple will be greater in the future than it was in the past, and also that I will give peace and prosperity to this place."

Hagay consults the priests

10 On the 24th of the ninth month in King Dareyavesh's (Darius') second year (about two months later), Yahweh gave a message to the prophet Hagay: **11** Commander-in-chief Yahweh says, "Ask the priests about Mosheh's (Moses') instructions. **12** 'If a priest took some meat that had been offered to God and carried it wrapped in a piece of clothing, then if the clothing touched some other food, would that other food become holy?' "

"No, it wouldn't," the priests replied.

13 Then Hagay asked, "But if a person became unclean by touching a corpse and then touched any of that food, would it become unclean?"

"Yes, it would become unclean,"[9] the priests answered.

14 "That's what Yahweh declares about you people," Hagay continued. "He says that that's how this country acts towards him. Your actions are dishonourable, and then that same disrespect transfers to your offerings. **15** So now think back to before stones were being laid for Yahweh's temple. **16** During that time, when someone went to get twenty containers of grain, there were only ten there, and when someone went to fill fifty jars of wine from the vat, there was only enough for twenty. **17** Yahweh declares that he caused blight and mildew and hail to affect your work, but you still didn't turn to him. **18** Think back to the time from when the foundation of Yah-

6 **RV 2:3 · Cross-ref.** Ezr 3:12.

7 **RV 2:5 · Cross-ref.** Exo 29:45-46.

8 **RV 2:6 · Cross-ref.** Heb 12:26.

9 **RV 2:13 · Cross-ref.** Num 19:11-22.

Readers' Version

weh's temple was laid, until today (this 24th of the ninth month). Consider that. **19** Is any grain left in the storehouse for seed? What's more, the vines, and the fig trees and pomegranate trees and olive trees, haven't produced fruit. However, Yahweh will bless you from today onwards."

God's promise to Zerubavel

20 Then Yahweh gave a second message to Hagay on the 24th: **21** Tell Zerubavel, the governor of Yehudah (Judah), "I'm about to shake the heavens and the earth. **22** I'll overthrow the thrones of kingdoms, and destroy the strength of the nations. I'll overthrow chariots and riders—horses and their riders will fall and related tribes will kill each other. **23** Commander-in-chief Yahweh declares that on that day he will take Shealtiyel's son Zerubavel and cause him to place Yahweh's mark on the nation like a signet ring, because he's been chosen."

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Literal Version

_day_of twenty and_four of_month (to)_from the_day when the_temple_of **YHWH** it_was_founded set heart_of_your(pl). **19** Still is_the_seed in_granary and_unto the_vine and_the_ _fig_tree and_the_pomegranate and_tree the_olive not it_ _has_borne_fruit from the_day the_this I_will_bless.

20 And_ the_message_of **YHWH** _he/it_was a_second_time to Ḥaggay on_day_twenty and_four of_month to_say. **21** Say to Zərubāvel the_governor_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) to_say I am_ _about_to_shake ᴅᴏᴍ the_heavens and_ᴅᴏᴍ the_earth/land. **22** And_I_will_overthrow the_throne_of kingdoms and_I_will_ _destroy the_strength_of the_kingdoms_of the_nations and_ _I_will_overthrow chariotry and_riders_of_its and_ horses and_riders_of_their _they_will_go_down each by_the_sword_ _of his/its_brother. **23** In_the_day (the)_that the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers I_will_take_you Oh_Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl servant_of_my the_utterance_of **YHWH** and_I_will_make_you like_signet-ring if/because in_ _you(ms) I_have_chosen the_utterance_of **YHWH** soldiers/messengers.

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