

**A FAILED RESTORATION**

A passage that is often overlooked is in the Old Testament. There is no ark, no giant fish, no crossing the Red Sea. It’s not even a prophecy. But it is the story of three men who attempted to restore Jerusalem following the Babylonian exile.

The first man is Zerubbabel, who rebuilt the Temple. Ezra, a priest, showed up 60 years later. Then Nehemiah comes to rebuild the wall.

When Zerubbabel laid the foundation for rebuilding the Temple, there is a ceremony and people shout for joy (Ezra 3:12). But if we read the prophet Haggai, a problem appears. He asked, “does anyone remember the Temple in its former glory?” (Haggai 2:3). If you continue reading to end of Nehemiah you will see that these three men failed to accomplish their desired restoration. This restoration failed because the people’s hearts were not right.

Here we are in 2021 trying to crawl back from our exile of isolation. We have certainly lost some things that perhaps cannot be reclaimed. But we need a new heart, a heart that God’s people needed in Zerubbabel’s day. Haggai gives some words of encouragement: *“Be strong, all you people still left in the land. And now get to work, for I am with you”* (Hag 2:4).

This is the answer! God promised that He would fill the Temple with glory and bring peace. God will do no less for us today. Let’s restore our hearts. Let’s have a heart to work.

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***Welcome to our services*  SUNDAY Worship…………………………………9:30 AM Bible Class……………………………10:45 AM MONDAY Bible Study……………………………6:30PM WEDNESDAY Bible Study……………………..…..7:00 PM THURSDAY W.I.N.G.S. (Women In God’s Service) Ladies’ Bible Class……………………10:00 AM**

**Monday PM, Wednesday PM and Thursday AM classes will all meet in the West Annex for the present time**

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**TODAY’S SERMON: Moving Our Mountains**

Friday Christians



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