

01-14-10

Dear Friends at Rolling Acres,

Haggai the prophet brings a very strong message from the Lord to the exiles who have returned to their homes in the Old Testament. God uses the prophet to point out that the people are lacking in their lives due to not turning to God (Hag. 2:17). "Why?" declares the Lord of hosts. Because my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house (Hag. 1:9) This was a stern prompt to start to rebuild the temple. God wasn't being a bully or being selfish. He was telling His people to get it right. They just needed to know that they had to make Him the priority. I've never been an exile but I would imagine that in returning to my home land, I would want to rebuild my house so that I could have a sense of permanency and stability again. The problem was that these folks had been so busy making their homes in a fancy manner (Hag. 1:4) that they had forgotten their God.

We easily can fall into the same trap of becoming caught up in our own lives to the detriment of our relationship with God. Let's return to the Lord Jesus our God this day! Let's make Him the priority of our lives. Take a moment to confess putting other things before Him, even things that seem good and a normal part of life. God promises His presence to the people as they rebuild the temple in Haggai. God has promised the same for us in His Son as we labor to build His kingdom. After all, our lives as servants of the Most High are about His Glory.

Please ask the Lord Jesus to guide us with the Helper, the Holy Spirit, as we seek His Face to build the Kingdom in Akron.

I invite you to join us for worship this Sunday, January 17th. The morning sermon is entitled, "You give them something to eat!" based on Luke 9:10-17. We will be studying Psalm 51 in our Sunday Evening Psalm Series.

May God bless you as you seek His Face,

Pastor Andy