

Get A Clue!

Haggai 1 and 2

Appearances are often deceiving!

1. It appears that the reason for the work stoppage is the local opposition. In reality, the reason is the people's own _____ (1:1-4)

2. It appears that the solution to the shortages they're experiencing is to hold back on giving to God. In reality, the solution is _____ (1:5-11)

3. It appears that the Temple under construction won't stack up to Solomon's Temple. In reality, it will be better because _____ (2:3-9)

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. People say, “You can’t judge a book by its cover.” What’s the point of that proverb? Do you agree or disagree? Illustrate your answer with a piece of your own experience.
2. Look at the five times God tells his people “consider your ways” (NIV: “give careful thought”): 1:5, 7, 2:15, 18-19. What is God’s message in each? What’s the effect of all of them together?
3. The apparent reason for the work stoppage on the Temple was the local opposition. What was the real reason (1:1-4)? How do you know it was that and not the opposition of the enemies? How does self-centeredness affect your life? What do you need to do to break its grip?
4. What was the real reason for the poor crops and inadequate provisions of the people (1:5-11)? How do you know that? Have you trusted God with the firstfruits of your earnings? Do you have any stories you can share about God’s provision for you?
5. What’s the physical difference between Solomon’s temple and the one Zerubbabel built (2:3)? What’s the spiritual reality (2:4-9)? What do we want to be known for as a church in our community?
6. Do you feel personally inadequate as the temple of God? When do you feel that way? How can Zerubbabel’s temple encourage you to see that God can use you?