

# It's Time to Trust God for the End Result

It's Time #5 - Pastor Gary Combs - February 9, 2025 - Haggai 2:6-9

SERMON INTRO VID: (Play after last worship song)

INTERVIEW (Play intro/put 3 stools on stage): Percy & Amanda Manuel

**IT'S TIME TALK** (Remove stools/place pulpit while Gary talks): You'll notice a card in your seats today called **"It's Time - My Commitment."** We're putting them in your seats today, so you'll have time this coming week to think and pray about your commitment. Because next **Sunday, February 16th is Commitment Sunday** and we're going to be asking everyone to turn in their commitment cards. You'll want to fold it and set it up like a tent on your dining table or somewhere prominent this week, where your whole family can talk about it and pray about it.



Let's look inside. Notice the **gift guide**. It shows how we can follow the **biblical principle of proportional giving** in order to reach our goal of \$1.5 million, over and above our normal giving. Look at the first column. It shows the number of gifts we need at each level in order to reach our goal. The next column shows what the monthly gift would be over 36 months and the 3rd column shows the total gift level.



What is the **biblical principle of proportional giving**? Here's a Scripture to help us understand this principle:

2 Corinthians 8:12 (NLT) Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have.

This biblical principle of proportional giving might be summarized by our motto:

**"NOT EQUAL GIFTS BUT EQUAL SACRIFICE"**

Again, next **Sunday, February 16th is Commitment Sunday!** So, be ready to bring your commitment cards back and bring them forward at the end of the service next Sunday as an expression of your thoughtful and prayerful obedience to what God has led you to do.

We're on a spiritual journey together, growing more and more like Jesus in our stewardship and generosity. Please drop by the It's Time table in the lobby every Sunday because we're putting out new items every week. And make sure you've picked up a copy of our **It's Time Journey Guide**. Especially read over the content inside the "Commitment Guide" tab this week.



This guide also underscores another biblical principle, the principle that **decisions about giving should be made in prayer**. As you look at the chart, pray "Lord, what do you want to do in me and through me." Then ask, "Lord, where do you see me on this giving chart? **What is "My Commitment?"**"

**Trans:** I hope the giving testimony that you heard today from Percy and Amanda, along with these resources will encourage you trust the Lord to provide for you as you make this commitment. And speaking of trusting the Lord, that's the title of today's sermon...

**INTRO:** Today's sermon is entitled: **"It's Time to Trust God for the End Result."** We're continuing our series called "It's Time!" We're going through the book of Haggai. Our theme comes from...

Haggai 1:2; 2:4-5 (ESV) "These people say the **time** has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord... Yet **now be strong... Work**, for I am with you, declares the Lord... My Spirit remains in your midst. **Fear not.**"

Last week, we learned how God encouraged His people to persevere in the rebuilding of His house and now this week, we'll see why they were able to be strong, do the work, and be fearless... It's because they didn't have to worry about the results. They could wholly trust the Lord for the end result of their work.

**Need:** Do you worry about success? At work? For you family? In other words, do you worry about how things are going to turn out? When you have children, you worry about what they're going to be when they grow up, who they're going to marry, will they be happy, will they love the Lord...? We worry whether we're saving enough for their college... or for our retirement... We invest our lives and our money in things and hope to be successful. Who can we trust for the results?

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**Trans:** Sure, we can put the work in, but how do we know it will be successful in the end? Is there a more trustworthy way to live?

**BODY:** In Haggai 2:6-9, the Lord told the prophet Haggai to tell His people that if they would persevere in building His house, they could trust Him for the end result. We can join God in His kingdom work and trust Him for the end result. How can we join God in His work, trusting Him for the end result? The text gives **three ways** we can join God in His work, trusting Him for the end result.

**Read text:** Haggai 2:6-9 (ESV) <sup>6</sup> For thus says the LORD of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. <sup>7</sup> And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>8</sup> The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the LORD of hosts. <sup>9</sup> The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the LORD of hosts.”

## WE CAN JOIN GOD IN HIS WORK, TRUSTING HIM FOR THE END RESULT:

### 1. By recognizing God's sovereignty over all things.

**EXP:** (6-7a) Notice God's three “I will” statements. “I will shake” (6-7), “I will fill” (7), and “I will give” (8). In verses 2:1-5, God had encouraged them to work at their part, now He's telling them the part that only He can do! First, notice He said, “I will shake” 2 times. What will He shake? Everything! He's sovereign over all!

“**LORD of hosts**” (6-9 5x) (יהוה צבאות, *YHWH šābā'*) - the almighty God of that which goes forth, armies, war, warfare, hosts; of sun, moon, and stars; of the whole creation. “Yahweh of Heaven's Armies.”

“**Yet once more**” (6) (דַּבַּר, *'eḥād*) - only, once. Once before, God had shaken “the moral world by God's revelation by Moses” (*Barnes*). For Mt. Sinai shook when God gave Moses the law.

Exodus 19:18 (ESV) Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly.

But now “once more” God would shake the world with the coming of Christ and His gospel. Even more, the book of Hebrews tells us that this verse points to the end times and the coming Unshakeable Kingdom!

Hebrews 12:26-27 (ESV) <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.

“**In a little while**” (6) (טַעַם, *m<sup>e</sup>'at*) - few, a little. In a little while you will finish this temple and my glory will be upon it. In a little while my glory will walk in this temple through the Messiah, my son Jesus. In a little while my glory will be on my people, the church, when the world ends and my glory reigns forevermore.

2 Peter 3:8 (ESV) But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

“**I will shake**” (6; 2x) (שַׁעַר *rā'āš*) - to cause to quake; to shake; to cause to spring or leap (of horse).

“**Heavens, earth, sea, and dry land**” (6) - this seems quite eschatological. God will shake all creation.

“**All nations**” (7) (גוֹי, *gōy*) - nation, people; usually of non-Hebrew people.

“**Treasures ... shall come in**” (7) (הַמְדָּה, *hemdā*) - delight, desire, goodly, pleasant, precious. NKJV translates this “Desire of All Nations,” making it clearly a messianic prophecy that God will bring the Messiah into this temple. The LXX translates it *ἐκλεκτὰ* which means chosen or elect one. This seems to be a present and future promise from God. For both translations, “treasures” and “Desire” may be in view.

Ezra 6:8 (ESV) [Darius speaking] Moreover, I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God. The cost is to be paid to these men in full and without delay from the royal revenue, the tribute of the province from Beyond the River.

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**ARG:** Have you come to the place as Job did, to recognize God's sovereignty over all things?

Job 42:1-2 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> Then Job answered the Lord and said: <sup>2</sup> "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

**ILL:** I was talking to one of our leaders this past Fall about our plans for a 3-year generosity initiative and he said, "Pastor, I understand the need for it, but I'm worried that 2025 might be a bad year economically." He was worried about our national economy. I'm sure that the Israelites were worried about the Persian economy too, but God said, "Watch this! I will shake the nations!" God's in control of all things!

**APP:** Where are you feeling worried today? Are you afraid to be generous towards God's work because you might not have enough? You're worried about the economy... your job...? Or maybe you're afraid you won't have enough for yourself and your own family? Will you trust God's provision? His sovereignty over all?

## 2. By serving for God's glory in all we do.

**EXP:** (7-9) Notice the 2nd time God says, "I will." He says, "I will fill this house with glory" (7).

"I will fill" (7) (מָלֵא, *mālā*) - to fill, to satisfy, to fulfill, accomplish, complete; fullness, abundance.

"Glory" (7,9 - 2x) (כְּבוֹד, *kābôd*) - glory, honor, glorious, abundance, riches, splendor.

"Silver ... gold is mine" (8) (אֲנִי, *'ānī*) - mine, my own. All the worldly goods are God's, the treasures of earth are at God's disposal. "If I pleased I could adorn this temple with them, but I will adorn it with a 'glory.'" (*Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary*)

Psalm 24:1 (ESV) The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein

"Latter glory" (9) (אַחֲרֵי, *'ahārôn*) - later, subsequent, latter, last (of time).

"Greater" (9) (גָּדוֹל, *gādôl*) - greater in number; in intensity; in importance. "The first had a fulness of glory in its magnificent structure, rich ornaments, and costly sacrifices, but this was a worldly glory; that which is here promised is a heavenly glory from the presence of Christ in it. He that was the brightness of his Father's glory, who is the glory of the church, appeareth in this second temple." (*Matthew Poole's Commentary*)

John 1:14 (ESV) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Matthew 12:6 (NKJV) [Jesus speaking] Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple.

"Former" (9) (רִשׁוֹן, *ri'sôn*) - first, primary, former. The former Temple, Solomon's Temple.

**ARG:** Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount to live in such a way that it brought glory to God.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**ILL:** Have you heard the saying, "It's amazing what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit"?

**APP:** The Israelites were worried that their rebuilt Temple would be less glorious than Solomon's, but God reminded them that the glory was His. He would fill it with His glory. Whose glory are you living for? Are you living for God's glory?

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## 3. By receiving God's peace given in Christ Jesus.

**EXP:** (9) Notice the last "I will" in verse 9: "And in this place I will give peace, declares the LORD of hosts."

"Peace" (9) (שָׁלוֹם, *šālôm*) - completeness (in number); safety, soundness (in body); welfare, health, prosperity; peace, quiet, tranquillity, contentment. There was a kind of temporal peace for Jerusalem from 516 BC when the Second Temple was completed, though being under the nations of Persia, Greece, and Rome, until the year 70 AD when the Roman general Titus laid siege to Jerusalem and completely demolished the Temple. But the true *shalom*, the true peace, God will give is Jesus!

**ARG:** True peace begins with reconciliation to God through Jesus.

Romans 5:1 (ESV) Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Jesus gives a peace that is different from worldly peace—it is lasting and unshakable.**

John 14:27 (NKJV) Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

**ILL:** I remember during our last generosity initiative. I got anxious about the final number. I looked at the small amount that I was able to give. Now, don't misunderstand, it was a lot for my house because I had felt led to give at one of the higher giving levels. So I was anxious about how I was going to be able to give that much and I was anxious about whether God's people would give. We had set a goal of \$1 million in order to remodel one of the theaters to make the Gathering Place, remodel the bathrooms, the lobby and the nursery, adding a bathroom. This was in 2019. I lost sleep over it. But finally, God gave me peace. On celebration Sunday, we announced that God had given our people the ability to make a faith commitment of \$1.2 million. We exceeded our goal! I was worried for nothing. The end result was always up to God!

**APP:** What are you worried about today? What is stealing your peace, your *shalom*? Are you looking for peace in the wrong places. Jesus said that His peace is better than worldly peace. For His peace makes us right with God, right with ourselves, and ultimately right with one another.

**CONCLUSION:** The people of Haggai's time were encouraged by God to persevere in doing His work, trusting Him for the end result. We too can join God in His work, trusting Him for the end result.

We can...

- 1) Recognize God's over all things.
- 2) Serve for God's glory in all we do.
- 3) Receive God's true peace given in Christ Jesus.

We're over half-way through our It's Time series. We have three weeks to go. Let's continue to keep our ...

### IT'S TIME SPIRITUAL JOURNEY COMMITMENT

- Attend all Sundays of the series and bring your It's Time Journey Guide with you to take notes.
- Do the 6-week (M-F) devotional starting January 13th through February 21st.
- Attend a weekly Community Group to discuss the It's Time Haggai study.
- Pray our It's Time prayer: "Lord, what do You want to do in and through me?"
- Respond to God's leading on **Commitment Sunday, February 16th**, and by faith, make a sacrificial, 3-year financial commitment that is over and above your current giving.
- And trust God for the end result because on **Sunday, March 2nd**, we're going to **celebrate** what God has done!

Let's pray.