

4. Effect of the Message

The Lord's people were encouraged by the promise of material prosperity from ^{that} the day forward to continue to do the work of the Lord which was to rebuild the temple (Hag. 2:19b).

Note: When the Lord's people put their own work first, they had nothing but trouble, frustration, and disappointment, but when they put the Lord's work first, the Lord promised them that they would experience peace, fulfillment, and blessing. By comparing their state when they put their own work first with what their state would be if they put the Lord's work first, the Lord's people would be encouraged to put His work first!

D. Fourth Message (Hag. 2:20-23)

1. Time of the Message (Hag. 2:20)

a. Year

It was the second year of Darius I (Hag. 2:20 cf. 2:10). This would be 520 B.C.

Note: The word "again" in Hag. 2:20 indicates that Haggai delivered this message on the same day that he delivered the third message. According to Hag. 2:10, the third message was delivered "in the second year of Darius," i.e. 520 B.C. Therefore, this message was delivered "in the second year of Darius," 520 B.C.

b. Month

It was the ninth month - Kislev - which covers part of November and December (Hag. 2:20' cf. 2:10).

Note: The month in Hag. 2:20 is the same month that is mentioned in Hag. 2:10, namely, the ninth month which is Kislev. The word "again" in Hag. 2:20 makes this clear.

c. Day

It was the 24th day of the month (Hag. 2:20).

Note; The 24th day of Kislev is the same as December 18 on our calendar.

2. Recipient of the Message (Hag. 2:21a).

The recipient of the message was Zerubbabel who was the governor of Judah - the political leader of the people.