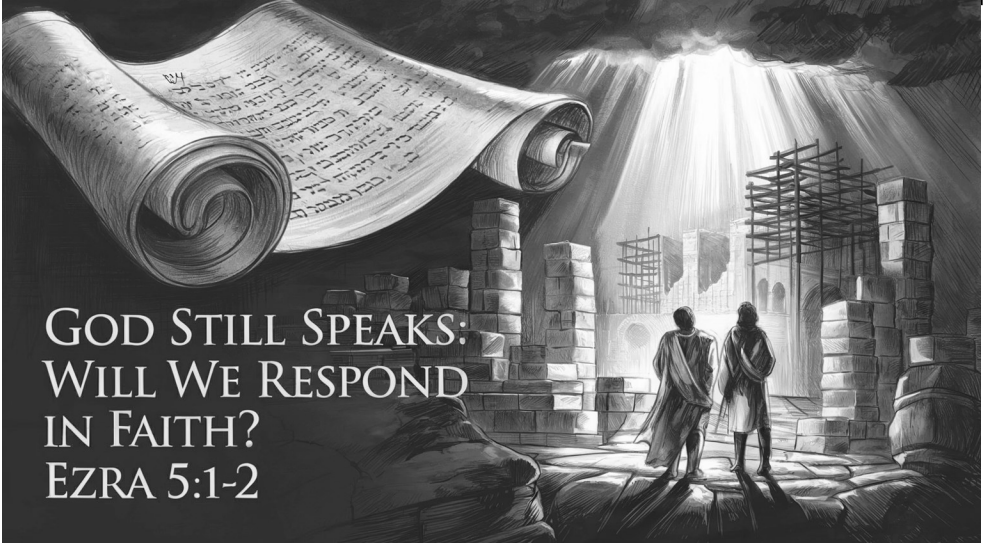


God Still Speaks: Will We Respond in Faith

September 8, 2024 | *Ezra 5:1-2, Haggai 1:1-15, Zechariah 1:1-6, 4:6-10*



GOD STILL SPEAKS: WILL WE RESPOND IN FAITH? EZRA 5:1-2

Observations from Ezra 5:1-2

What is happening in these verses?

Ezra 5:1-2

- **Haggai** and **Zechariah** prophesied to the people of God in the name of God
- A spiritual awakening happened with the leaders (and the people of God)
- The prophets supported the leaders
- God’s work continued despite opposition

Ezra 5:1-2	Haggai	Zechariah
The prophets Haggai and Zechariah spoke	Haggai 1:1-11 – Call to rebuild the tem-	Zechariah 1:1-6 - Call to repentance
Zerubbabel and Jeshua <u>arose</u> to rebuild / The prophets <u>supported</u> and encouraged them	Haggai 2:4-9 – Encouragement to continue, <i>"I am with you"</i>	Zechariah 4:6-10 – <i>"Not by might, but by My Spirit"</i>

Ontario Community Church: **Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.**

John 6:47 (ESV) “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life”

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Lessons from Ezra 5:1-2

What can we learn (interpret) from these verses?

The Power of Prophetic Encouragement

- Haggai and Zechariah, by the Holy Spirit prophesized, encouraged and supported God's people in times of delay or opposition.
- *Scripture References: Isaiah 55:11, 2 Timothy 3:16*

Immediate Obedience to God's Call

- Zerubbabel and Jeshua responded immediately to God's call by obedience.
- *Scripture References: James 1:22, Luke 11:28*

Encouragement Through Presence and Consistency

- The prophets delivered a message and continued to encourage and support the people of God.
- *Scripture References: 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 10:24-25*

Application from Ezra 5:1-2

How can I apply / live out these verses?

Listen to the Prophetic Voice of God

- Be open to hearing God's voice through Scripture, the Holy Spirit, and other people. Always test it with God's Word.
- *Reference Verses: 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21, Hebrews 3:13*

Persevere Through Opposition

- Continue doing God's work, even when facing external opposition or setbacks.
- *Reference Verses: Galatians 6:9, 1 Corinthians 15:58*

Immediate Obedience to God's Call

- When God calls you, respond through listening and acting accordingly.
- *Reference Verses: James 1:22, Joshua 1:16-17*

Encourage One Another

- Support and encourage your brothers and sisters in Christ. (i.e. prayer, presence, & community)
- *Reference Verses: Hebrews 10:24-25, 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

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