

# The Glory of the Second House

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Haggai 2:4-9 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel, says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I am with you,' says the LORD of hosts. <sup>5</sup> 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!' <sup>6</sup> 'For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; <sup>7</sup> and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the *Desire of All Nations*, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. <sup>8</sup> 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the LORD of hosts. <sup>9</sup> 'The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

## A brief report about this passage:

The Israelites were so discouraged building the second temple because it wasn't as magnificent as the first one. The First temple was built by King Solomon with all the resources he had. The building was big, superb and all well decorated. However, this temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon and the Israelites were taken as their slaves. But after 70 years, the Israelites came back to their land and decided to build a new temple. Due to certain circumstances, this new temple needed to be smaller and more modest and that brought discouragement to them. Then God sent prophet Haggai to encourage people to finish the building, and that even though it was smaller, God promised that He would be there and bless the new place.

Reading this passage, we can see a very clear similarity with what we are living today. The Scripture that is spoken to us is a RHEMA Word, a word for us as a church right now. This is a message from God, a word of encouragement, telling us to "keep going" in the direction we are in, and that He is with us as a church.

Some popular quotes say:

*"Sometimes we need to take a step back in order to move forward"*

*"An arrow can only be shot by pulling it backward"*

So, let's see some guide lines from the scripture we just read:

## 1. Three times and in three different levels God says, "Be Strong!"

<sup>4</sup> Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel, says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,'

- Zerubbabel was a Governor, Joshua was a High Priest and all the People
- God said: Be strong and Work!

## 2. God confirms that His Spirit is still with us

<sup>5</sup> 'According to the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!'

- God never forgets the commitment He has with us, He wants to fulfil it
- His Spirit stays with us always, even through the mistakes we make

- 3. The manifestation of His Glory will be “bigger” now, than it was in the past**
- <sup>9</sup>‘The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the LORD of hosts.  
‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the LORD of hosts.”
- God doesn’t depend on circumstances, He is never limited by a physical place
  - He will manifest His Glory whenever people seek Him deeply