

**Finish What You Started**  
*A Challenge to Give*  
Haggai 1:1-15

We see 3 things in this message from Haggai this morning.

**I. The People's Reasons for not Finishing what they Started** v2

Why was it not the right time?

**1. A Lack of Enthusiasm**

Ezra 3:12-13 *But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping,*

**2. An Attack from the Enemy**

**3. A Weak Economy**

**II. The Lord's Rebuke of the People for not Finishing what they Started**

He attributed their misplaced priorities to 3 things

**1. Selfishness** v3-4

**2. Stubbornness** v5-6; 9-11

**3. Stewardship** v7-8

**III. The People Respond by Determining to Finish what they Started** v12-15

Prov 22:7 *The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.*

**1. God has a Plan to Make it Happen** v2:6-7

**2. God has the Prosperity to Make it Happen** v2:8

Ps 24:1 *The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,*  
Ps 50:10-12 *every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.*

**3. God has the Power to Make it Happen**

Ezra 6:1-5; 8-10