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Dear Associates and Friends,

April 2014

This month's article "[Book of Haggai, Time Prophecies](#)," presents a perspective of the Book of Haggai different from last month's article.<sup>1</sup> The time prophecies of Haggai are interwoven with the prophecies of Haggai, Zechariah, and with other older prophecies of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel. Dr. Martin's analysis is unique as he shows how God exercises His sovereign right to change times and seasons (Daniel 2:20–22).

This newsletter gives a sequence of events and historical background during the early reign of Darius, King of Persia. The Temple is the focus of Haggai's prophecies. After the Jews and Israel were allowed by King Cyrus of Persia to return to Judea and rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem in accord to God's provision, Ezra the priest tells that the work never really began and problems arose:

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year of Darius, King of Persia — Ezra, background information (Ezra 4:24–5:2)**

**"Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto [until] the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia. Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, even unto them. Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua [Joshua] the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem: and with them were the prophets of God helping them."**

Then God gave a prophecy to Haggai:

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year, 6<sup>th</sup> month, 1<sup>st</sup> day of the month — Haggai, first message (Haggai 1:1)**

**"In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of YHWH by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, ..."**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year, 6<sup>th</sup> month, 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month — the people's responded (Haggai 1:14–15)**

Through Haggai's prophecies and the urging of Zerubbabel and Joshua, the people acted and began work again to complete the Temple.

**"And YHWH stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of YHWH of hosts, their God, In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king."**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year, 7<sup>th</sup> month, 21<sup>st</sup> day of the month — Haggai, second message (Haggai 2:1)**

**"In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of YHWH by the prophet Haggai, saying, ..."**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> year, 8<sup>th</sup> month — Zechariah, first message (Zechariah 1:1)**

**"In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of YHWH unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying, ..."**

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<sup>1</sup> "[The Book of Haggai](#)" is a detailed analysis of Haggai's short prophecies. All are intimately connected to other prophecies.

2<sup>nd</sup> year, 9<sup>th</sup> month, 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month — Haggai, third message (Haggai 2:10)

**“In the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of YHWH by Haggai the prophet, saying ...”**

2<sup>nd</sup> year, 9<sup>th</sup> month, 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month — same day as above (Haggai 2:18)

**“Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of YHWH’s temple was laid, consider it.”**

2<sup>nd</sup> year, 9<sup>th</sup> month, 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month — same day as above (Haggai 2:20–21)

God gives Haggai a prophecy about a future Zerubbabel.

**“And again the word of YHWH came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth day of the month, saying, Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying ...”**

2<sup>nd</sup> year, 11<sup>th</sup> month, 24<sup>th</sup> day of the month — Zechariah (Zechariah 1:7)

**“Upon the four and twentieth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Sebat, in the second year of Darius, came the word of YHWH unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying, ...”**

4<sup>th</sup> year, 9<sup>th</sup> month, 4<sup>th</sup> day — Zechariah (Zechariah 7:1)

**“And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Darius, that the word of YHWH came unto Zechariah in the fourth day of the ninth month, even in Chisleu; ...”**

6<sup>th</sup> year, 12<sup>th</sup> month, 3<sup>rd</sup> day — Ezra (Ezra 6:14–16)

**“And the elders of the Jews built [the house of God, Ezra 6:3], and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built, and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia. And THIS HOUSE WAS FINISHED on the third day of the month Adar [the 12<sup>th</sup> month, Esther 3:7], which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king. And the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy, ...”**

These prophecies and historical notes indicate how God works very precisely with time, and the dates in Scripture are important. In the above list, the prophecies of Haggai and Zechariah are framed at the beginning and end (in time) by the historical narratives of Ezra. He himself likely placed the Twelve Minor Prophets in their current order. Read the passages above with their larger contexts surrounding the verses.

### **Thank You**

God created the eons through His Son Jesus Christ, the heir of all things in creation (Hebrews 1:2). Time is a wonderful creation of God, it is linear, and we can read about the past in God’s word and human history. We can learn about the future only through God’s word. Man cannot predict the future and neither can any spirit entity, unless they act as God’s agent. These should be tested (1 John 4:1).

ASK presents an array of material which takes the testimony of Scripture at face value. We do not assume a human agenda in Scripture, although the human writers obviously had concerns and crises in their lives. God’s message is explicit in His word and He does not leave us without a witness to the truth.

Your financial support to sustain ASK and provide others with our material is greatly appreciated. You are literally helping build the Body of Christ by assisting others to become spiritually mature. This is a vitally important task for the world. It also provides a witness (as Dr. Martin shows in this month’s article) of how God is indeed active in the world helping His people have His truths available, now and in the future. You understand the mature things of God. We thank you for your prayers, comments, and support.

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