

Haggai 2:20-23 – Study Leader’s Questions

1. *Why is this message addressed only to Zerubbabel (Haggai 2:20)?*
2. *What does Haggai mean when he says God is going to shake the heavens and the earth?*
3. *Six times in these verses God says ‘I will’ do... What does this tell us about the world in which we live (Haggai 2:22-23)?*
4. *Why is it important to Zerubbabel to know that he has been **chosen** by God (Haggai 2:23)?*
5. *In what way was Zerubbabel like God’s signet?*
6. *Why are such great things said about Zerubbabel when we know from history that so little happened with him?*
7. *What is the significance of Haggai closing his book with the name of God ‘the Lord Almighty or Lord of hosts’? Note that “**the LORD of hosts**” is the correct term.*
8. *What can we learn about the nature of the Messiah from this passage?*
9. *What can we learn about the work of the church today from this book?*

Haggai 2:20-23 – Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *Minor Prophets Volume II Habakkuk – Malachi* pp 263-265, 346-351, 477-480 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 939, 1016, 1212, 1233 for detailed comment and additional information.

1. Why is this message addressed only to Zerubbabel (Haggai 2:20)?

- Zerubbabel ***“was of the house and lineage of David”*** Luke 2:4 like Joseph and therefore eligible for a particular calling as Joseph was, Matthew 1:20-23.
- Zerubbabel was ***“of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham”*** Matthew 1:1, 12-13 Who ***“shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David”*** Luke 1:32. Note from Jeremiah 22:30 ***“no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah”*** with respect to ***“Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah”*** Jeremiah 22:24 and formerly ***“Jeconiah king of Judah”*** Esther 2:5. God signified the end of the royal line by direct succession by cutting off the ***“Je”*** for ***“Jehovah”*** from the name ***“Jeconiah”*** making ***“this man Coniah a despised broken idol...a vessel wherein is no pleasure...wherefore are they cast out, he and his seed, and are cast into a land which they know not”*** Jeremiah 22:28. The Lord Jesus Christ therefore had to be virgin-born in order to resume the royal line and occupy ***“the throne of his father David”*** and Zerubbabel had to sustain the royal line even though he himself would not occupy any throne during his Old Testament lifetime.
- Zerubbabel was ***“Zerubbabel, governor of Judah”*** Haggai 2:21 and thereby typified the Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 2:6 citing Micah 5:2 ***“And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.”*** The Lord Jesus Christ had a special calling and therefore so should Zerubbabel as the Lord's type.

Note that every Christian has a special calling from God according to Colossians 4:17 that in principle is not limited to Archippus.

“And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.”

2. What does Haggai mean when he says God is going to shake the heavens and the earth?

He means that God is going to shake the heavens and the earth. This will happen at the Second Advent.

For ***“the stars of heaven”*** Revelation 6:13, see Revelation 12:4, 7, 9 where these stars are defined as angels according to the expression ***“the devil and his angels”*** Matthew 25:41.

“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places” Revelation 6:12-14.

This is a literal, physical, visible, experiential cataclysmic disruption of ***“the heavens and the earth, which are now”*** 2 Peter 3:7. It is not to be confused with or spiritualised by the figurative expression in Acts 17:6 with respect to the apostolic ministry whereby Paul and his missionary companions are described as ***“These that have turned the world***

upside down” – an expression that does not refer to the heavens, only the earth – showing that men recognised the truth of the Gospel but rejected it. Note further Revelation 6:15-17 below, indicating that all men have enough light John 1:9 to perceive that ***“the gospel of Christ”*** Romans 1:16 ***“is truth, and is no lie”*** 1 John 2:27. They simply ***“resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith”*** 2 Timothy 3:8 because ***“men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil”*** John 3:19.

Observe further that in what follows, no impassioned pleas are made to Mary, Mohammed, Allah, Gaia or any number of ***“the gods of the nations”*** that ***“are idols”*** Psalm 96:5. Men know *exactly* or at least *will* know and *testify* that ***“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight; but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do”*** Hebrews 4:13.

What follows is real fear, sheer terror and panic-stricken efforts to flee for dear life, not merely indignation at having been witnessed to as in Acts 17:6. Note the reference to ***“the great day of his wrath”*** that cannot reasonably be spiritualised with respect to evangelism because it shows in effect that ***“the day of salvation”*** 2 Corinthians 6:2 twice is *past* except for those at the time of whom Isaiah 25:9 states ***“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”*** Not everyone at that time will be able to say that, as Revelation 6:15-17 show.

“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”

3. Six times in these verses God says ‘I will’ do... What does this tell us about the world in which we live (Haggai 2:22-23)?

It will be overthrown at the Second Advent. See remarks under *Question 2*.

“The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day” Isaiah 2:11.

“And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low; and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day” Isaiah 2:17.

“And the idols he shall utterly abolish” Isaiah 2:18. No more www.bafta.org/ BAFTA Awards.

“And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made each one for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth” Isaiah 2:19-21 with Revelation 6:15-17 in *Question 2* above.

No more EU, IMF, IPCC, UN, NWO, WCC, WHO etc.

“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one” Zechariah 14:9 according to Psalm 83:18 ***“That men may know that***

thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth” i.e. “JESUS” Matthew 1:21, 25.

Mary is *out*, Mohammed is *out*, Darwin is *out*, Marx is *out*, Allah is *out*, the pope is *out* and “*the royal law*” James 2:8 is *in* because “*the Lord of the whole earth*” Micah 4:13 will govern by it *and has even subjected Himself to it* “*for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name*” Psalm 138:2.

It is therefore better to be King James Only voluntarily now than to be forcibly so then.

“Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded” Proverbs 13:13.

“Wherefore thus saith the Holy One of Israel, Because ye despise this word, and trust in oppression and perverseness, and stay thereon: Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant” Isaiah 30:12-13.

4. Why is it important to Zerubbabel to know that he has been *chosen* by God (Haggai 2:23)?

He would then be sure that God’s purposes through him via “*the words of the LORD*” Psalm 12:6 would be fulfilled.

“There are many devices in a man’s heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand” Proverbs 19:21.

“For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?” Isaiah 14:27.

“Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go” Isaiah 48:17.

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” Isaiah 55:11.

Those are good verses to be praying for Dave and Mike and their respective futures. The Christian has the same assurance with respect to his calling that Zerubbabel had. See remarks in *Question 1* on Colossians 4:17 and Archippus.

“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you” John 15:16. Note that this calling has to do with “*being fruitful in every good work*” Colossians 1:10, not solely salvation.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” Ephesians 2:10.

5. *In what way was Zerubbabel like God's signet?*

Zerubbabel was "**Zerubbabel, governor of Judah**" Haggai 2:20, *Question 1* and he was also "**Zerubbabel, my servant**" Haggai 2:23. Note therefore that Zerubbabel was the leading recipient of God's command to restore the temple that He gave in Haggai 1:8 "**Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.**"

Zerubbabel was then foremost in obedience to Haggai 1:8 according to God's initiative in Haggai 1:14, *along with Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest* "**And the LORD 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 the LORD of hosts, their God.**"

The significance of the signet is that it denotes kingship or ruler-ship.

"**And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD**" Exodus 39:30. This crown was part of "**the holy garments for Aaron the priest...to minister in the priest's office**" Exodus 39:41.

Zechariah, the companion Book of prophecy with Haggai, then associates "**my servant,**" His ruler-ship and the exercise in holiness of His priestly office, noting also the association between "**my servant**" and Zerubbabel both of whom are said to be God's "**chosen.**"

"**...for I have chosen thee, saith the LORD of hosts**" Haggai 2:23.

"**Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles**" Matthew 12:18.

The passages in Zechariah that associate "**my servant,**" His ruler-ship and the exercise in holiness of His priestly office are as follows.

"**Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH**" Zechariah 3:8.

"**Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both**" Zechariah 6:11-13.

Haggai 2:23 indicates that Zerubbabel is God's servant, who is commanded to build God's house, Haggai 1:8 and who then sets about the task, Haggai 1:14. God says to Zerubbabel that He "**will make thee as a signet**" Haggai 2:23, denoting both ruler-ship with "**the holy crown of pure gold**" and "**the priest's office**" Exodus 39:30, 41.

Zechariah 6:11-13 then designates "**Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest**" to receive two crowns, of "**silver and gold**" and this Joshua typifies "**the man whose name is The BRANCH**" Who "**shall sit and rule upon his throne**" and therefore, as *Question 1* shows, this cannot be Joshua of Haggai and Zechariah's time because Jeremiah 22:30

states *“no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah”* with respect to *“Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah”* Jeremiah 22:24 and formerly *“Jeconiah king of Judah”* Esther 2:5 and *“Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest”* was not in the royal line, only Zerubbabel was. Coniah was in fact *“the signet upon my right hand”* that God effectively discarded, Jeremiah 22:24. See *Question 1* with respect to *“Coniah the son of Jehoiakim king of Judah”* Jeremiah 22:24

Zechariah 6:11-13 is therefore pointing to a future Ruler, *“The BRANCH”* Who *“shall build the temple of the LORD,”* see Ezekiel 40-48, thereby ensuring that *“The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former”* Haggai 2:9, Who *“shall bear the glory”* because *“he shall be for a glorious throne to his father’s house”* Isaiah 22:23 and *“shall sit and rule upon his throne”* with a gold crown for Deity, Revelation 1:13, 8:3, 9:13, 14:14 as *“our Lord Jesus Christ...the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords”* 1 Timothy 6:14-15 and a silver crown for redemption, silver signifying redemption, Leviticus 27:3-8, 16, 19, Jeremiah 32:8, 9 as *“the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus”* Hebrews 3:1, Who *“obtained eternal redemption for us”* Hebrews 9:12.

Therefore *“he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both”* Zechariah 6:13 because He is *“Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace”* Isaiah 9:6, noting the *“The”* capital *“T”* for *“The BRANCH”* with respect to ruler-ship Zechariah 6:12 as in Isaiah 9:6 i.e. both references denote the Lord Jesus Christ.

Note also that the name *“Joshua”* becomes *“Jesus”* in Acts 7:45, Hebrews 4:8 because Joshua is subordinate to the *“captain of the host of the LORD”* Joshua 5:14-15, Who is also *“the captain of their salvation”* Hebrews 2:10.

In sum, Zerubbabel was like God’s signet in that as *“his servant”* and God’s *“chosen”* he is like *“my servant the BRANCH,”* also God’s *“chosen”* Matthew 12:18, he is in the royal line *“of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham”* Matthew 1:1, 12-13, *Question 1*, Who *“will be king over all the earth”* Zechariah 14:9, *Question 3*, as *“the man whose name is The BRANCH,”* the signet denoting ruler-ship, Exodus 39:30, 41. *“Joshua the high priest”* Zechariah 6:12 is necessary to complete the typology with respect *“The BRANCH”* as the King-High Priest and with respect to the association of his name with *“Jesus”* as *“captain of the host of the LORD.”*

Haggai 1 shows that the Lord used chastisement to lift the people’s vision from *“every man unto his own house”* to *“mine house”* Haggai 1:9. He also used chastisement Haggai 2:14-17 because *“ye turned not to me, saith the LORD”* Haggai 2:17. Having, it appears, got the people’s attention, God is now reminding them of their destiny *“According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt”* Haggai 2:5 *“how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself”* Exodus 19:4 such that *“Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people; for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation...”* Exodus 19:5-6.

Haggai 2:21, 23 with Zechariah 3:8, 6:11-13 indicate that *God will fulfil Exodus 19:4-6 following the Second Advent by giving Israel a King-Priest “the man whose name is The BRANCH” typified by Israel’s post-exilic leaders, “Zerubbabel, governor of Judah” Haggai 2:21, see Question 1, i.e. “Zerubbabel, my servant” Haggai 2:23 and “Joshua the high priest” and Haggai 2:21, 23 with Zechariah 3:8, 6:11-13 and Exodus 19:4-6 in*

turn therefore point to the priesthood of all believers today who should glorify God now 1 Corinthians 10:31 just as God “will fill this house with glory” Haggai 2:7 at the Second Advent, as He will with today’s believers in that “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” Colossians 3:4. Until then, glorifying God now is also a condition of the priesthood of all believers. Note the similarities with Exodus 19:4-6.

“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ” 1 Peter 2:5.

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” 1 Peter 2:9.

“To offer up spiritual sacrifices” is of course to “shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light,” noting that “because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you” so that you are ever “bearing his reproach” John 15:19 with Hebrews 13:13-16.

“My servant” of course can refer to a Christian as a steward and therefore Paul’s admonition to stewards ought to be followed “in simplicity and godly sincerity” 2 Corinthians 1:12.

“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful” 1 Corinthians 4:2.

6. *Why are such great things said about Zerubbabel when we know from history that so little happened with him?*

See *Question 5* remembering that Zerubbabel was *the Lord's type* and that what is little in history may be of great importance to God. Note first God's admonition to Baruch.

"And seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not: for, behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the LORD: but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest" Jeremiah 45:5.

The Christian should therefore remember and apply Philippians 2:3-4, keeping in mind especially that the greatest and far and away the most deserving of the "others" is **"the man whose name is The BRANCH"** Zechariah 6:12, especially with respect to 1 Corinthians 10:31 again **"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."** Philippians 2:3-4 read as follows.

"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

Zerubbabel was also *God's finisher*, like Paul, which God wants every Christian to be.

"The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you" Zechariah 4:9.

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" 2 Timothy 4:7.

Zerubbabel also had *an absolute standard*, which may seem of little importance today but isn't and which is God's absolute standard that God wants every Christian to have. It is the key to attaining a perfect or pure heart that God wants every Christian to have.

"For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth" Zechariah 4:10.

"For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him..." 2 Chronicles 16:9.

"Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" 2 Timothy 2:22.

"The plummet" or absolute standard is the Book, the 1611 Authorized Holy Bible that the Lord has magnified above all His name. It is **"thy truth"** by which the believer is sanctified and by it lying is obliterated.

"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name" Psalm 138:2.

"Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place" Isaiah 28:17.

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" John 17:17.

“*Small things*,” it should be noted, may have major consequences:

“Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!” James 3:5.

- A flimsy container made of bulrushes saved the life of Israel’s law-giver, Exodus 2:3, John 1:17.
- One ***“line of scarlet thread”*** helped preserve the genealogy of the Lord Jesus Christ and so did a bedchamber, Joshua 2:18, 2 Kings 11:2.
- Broken pitchers, ill-blown trumpets, an ass’s jawbone, a shepherd boy’s sling in turn saved a nation, Judges 7:19, 20, 15:15, 1 Samuel 17:49, 50.
- Flimsy ***“paper reeds by the brooks”*** Isaiah 19:7 yield ***“the scripture of truth”*** Daniel 10:21 that will outlast heaven and earth, Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31, Luke 21:33.
- A crude outhouse for animal livestock furnished the delivery room for ***“the Christ, the Saviour of the world”*** Luke 2:7, John 4:42.
- ***“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting”*** Micah 5:2.

As with things, so with people, God delights in ***“small things.”***

“For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty” 1 Corinthians 1:26-27.

King James 1st was not mighty ***“after the flesh,”*** was upbraided as ***“God’s silly vassal”*** en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Melville and scorned as ***“the wisest fool in Christendom”*** en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_VI_and_I but God did ***“great and mighty things”*** Jeremiah 33:3 through him. See *The Book of Books, The Radical Impact of The King James Bible 1611-2011* by Melvyn Bragg and be encouraged.

Sister Gail Riplinger is not mighty ***“after the flesh”*** but her work has set Christian fundamentalism on its ear, particularly in The USA.

See www.avpublications.com/avnew/home.html.

John Wesley had an obscure background as the fifteenth son of country parson in what would then have been a fairly remote parish but his ministry influence continues to this day as even the secular source Wikipedia admits.

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wesley and www.linc.ox.ac.uk/Famous-AlumniJohn-Wesley-1703---1791.

Dawson E. Trotman was a physically small man from a very ordinary background but God used him to found The Navigators, a pioneering ministry of evangelism and establishment of new believers in their faith. See www.navigators.org/us/aboutus/history.

Dr Peter S. Ruckman and Bro. Jack Chick are both men of relatively small stature physically but in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ ***“mighty in deed and word before God and all the people”*** Luke 24:19.

See www.kjv1611.org/index.html and www.chick.com/default.asp.

7. What is the significance of Haggai closing his book with the name of God 'the Lord Almighty or Lord of hosts'? Note that **"the LORD of hosts"** is the correct term.

See www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php Haggai 1 – Consider your Ways Question 1 with respect to why the expression **"the LORD of hosts"** and not **"the LORD Almighty"** is the correct term. The terms **"the Lord Almighty"** and **"Lord God Almighty"** show that one-world-ism desired under the Antichrist, Revelation 13:3, 4 is against God's authority. God does not recognise one-world-ism, Revelation 13:7 retaining the word **"nations"** and God will preserve **"nations"** into eternity, Revelation 21:24, which in part explains the anger of the nations, who want to get together as one world kingdom under the Devil, Revelation 11:18, 20:7, 8, 9, 10. As indicated in Haggai 1 – Consider your Ways Question 1 the terms **"the Lord Almighty"** and **"Lord God Almighty"** serve a different purpose from that of the term **"the LORD of hosts"** which in Haggai 1, 2 would, as an encouragement, remind Israel of Elisha's exhortation in dire circumstances similar to those of the post-exilic period e.g. Nehemiah 4:4 **"Hear, O our God; for we are despised:"** **"Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them"** 2 King 6:16.

Note this extract from Question 5, with additional underlining for Joshua 5:14.

In sum, Zerubbabel was like God's signet in that as **"his servant"** and God's **"chosen"** he is like **"my servant the BRANCH,"** also God's **"chosen"** Matthew 12:18, he is in the royal line **"of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham"** Matthew 1:1, 12-13, Question 1, Who **"will be king over all the earth"** Zechariah 14:9, Question 3, as **"the man whose name is The BRANCH,"** the signet denoting ruler-ship, Exodus 39:30, 41. **"Joshua the high priest"** Zechariah 6:12 is necessary to complete the typology with respect **"The BRANCH"** as the King-High Priest and with respect to the association of his name with **"Jesus"** [Acts 7:45, Hebrews 4:8] as **"captain of the host of the LORD"** [Joshua 5:14-15].

Only the expression **"the LORD of hosts"** fits all the typology of Haggai 2:20-23 including that of **"captain of the host of the LORD...the captain of the LORD'S host"** Joshua 5:14-15. Note that the 1984, 2011 NIVs break the important cross references of Haggai 2:23 and Joshua 5:14-15.

8. What can we learn about the nature of the Messiah from this passage?

Haggai 2:20-23 shows that the Messiah is a ruthless invading military Dictator with power to unhinge the universe, Haggai 2:21, so that He has no trouble in violently terminating with extreme prejudice all manmade regimes and armed forces on this planet without a hint of dialogue or compromise, Haggai 2:22, while unhesitatingly discriminating in favour of His faithful servants, Haggai 2:23, at that time, *of whom Zerubbabel will be one*. See Question 3 with respect to the EU, IMF, IPCC, UN, NWO, WCC, WHO etc. That is *precisely* the New Testament depiction of the Messiah, *even in the Pauline Epistles*.

"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear" Matthew 13:41-43.

Note that Zerubbabel will be among **"the righteous"** so Haggai 2:23 has a long-term *personal permanent* fulfilment for him in addition to the typology fulfilment. He will also be with **"his saints"** Jude 14, see below, and **"the saints"** Revelation 11:18, see be-

low, reinforcing the long-term *personal permanent* fulfilment of Haggai 2:23 for Zerubabel and pointing to the similar, *personal permanent fulfilment for the Christian at the Second Advent* according to 1 John 3:2 **“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”**

Note these further *New Testament Messianic* references.

“Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet” 1 Corinthians 15:24-25.

“...the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ” 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8.

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him” Jude 11-12.

“And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” Revelation 6:15-17. See *Question 2*.

“And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth” Revelation 11:18.

N.B. Revelation 11:18 shows unequivocally that the Lord Jesus Christ *cannot* be **“the desire of all nations”** Haggai 2:7. See www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php *Haggai 2 Part 1 – Desire of all Nations Question 8*.

9. *What can we learn about the work of the church today from this book?*

In sum, with respect to church work according to practical lessons from Haggai 1, 2:

- It is the work of the Lord according to the word of the Lord, Haggai 1:3, 7, 8.
- It has priority over individual work, Haggai 1:4, 8, 9.
- It should be reviewed from time to time to keep on track, Haggai 1:5, 7, 2:15, 18.
- It should glorify God, Haggai 1:8, 2:7.
- It will suffer chastisement from God if it doesn't, Haggai 1:9, 10, 11.
- It should follow from obedience to what God says by the church leaders followed by the 'rank and file' church members, Haggai 1:12.
- It must be led of God by His prompting of the spirit of all members, Haggai 1:13, 14.
- It will go from strength to strength according to God's promise, Haggai 2:4.
- It should be done without fear, Haggai 2:5.
- It should go on until the Lord's Return, Haggai 2:6, 7.
- It should trust in the Lord's resources, Haggai 2:9.
- It should be a holy work or it will incur chastisement, Haggai 2:12, 13, 14, 16, 17.
- It should proceed according to God's preferred timetable with the expectation of blessing, Haggai 2:18, 19, 20.
- It should impart a sense of individual calling by God for the work of church, as an incentive for good work both individually and collectively, Haggai 2:21, 22, 23.

It should always be remembered that the church has a high and holy calling from God:

“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord” Ephesians 3:10-11 that of partaking ***“in bringing many sons to glory”*** Hebrews 2:10 ***“made...meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light”*** Colossians 1:12. Amen.