

HAGAI.

The period of Hagai's Prophetic Ministry was about 520 B.C.

1 **I**N the second year of King Darius
in the sixth month, on the first
day of the month, the Command of
the EVER-LIVING came by the
medium of Hagai the Preacher to
Zerubabel-ben-Shalathiel, Governor
of Judah, and to Joshua-ben-Jhozad-
dak, the High Priest, to say;—
2 "Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS!
This people say, 'It is not the time
to go to the House of the EVER-
LIVING to rebuild it!'"
3 The command of the EVER-LIV-
ING, however, came by means of
Hagai the Preacher to say;—
4 "Is it a time for you to rest in
your wainscoted houses,—when this
5 HOUSE is in ashes? So now," thus
says the LORD OF HOSTS, "fix your
6 hearts on your proceedings. You
sow much, but it produces little.
You eat and are not satisfied. You
drink, but are not quenched. You
clothe, but are not warm. And the
workman earns for a purse with
holes!"
7 Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS.
"Fix your hearts on your proceedings!
8 Go up to the hill and bring timber
and build the HOUSE, and I shall be
pleased and honoured by it," says the
EVER-LIVING.
9 "You went for much, and found
little; you brought that home, but I
blew it away!—Why?"—the LORD
OF HOSTS asks, "Why?—Because
My House is a heap of ashes, while
you all run to your own homes!
10 Therefore the skies withhold dew from
you, and the earth withholds her pro-
11 duce. So I proclaimed a drought
upon the land, and upon the hills,
and on the corn, and on the wine,
and on the oil, and on whatever
grows from the ground, and upon
man, and upon beast, and on the
works of your hands."
12 Then Zerubabel-ben-Shalathiel
and Joshua-ben-Jhozadak the High

Priest, and all the fragments of the
People, consequently listened to the
voice of their EVER-LIVING GOD,
and to the address of Hagai the
Preacher, which their EVER-LIVING
GOD had sent to him. And the
People paid reverence to the EVER-
LIVING.

Then Hagai the Messenger of the 13
EVER-LIVING spoke about the
Messages of the EVER-LIVING to the
People, and said,—“The LIFE says I
am with you.”

The EVER-LIVING also roused the 14
spirit of Zerubabel-ben-Shalathiel,
the Governor of Judah, and the spirit
of Joshua-ben-Jhozadak, the High
Priest, and the spirit of all the
fragments of the People, and they
went and did work at the HOUSE of
the LORD OF HOSTS, their GOD, on
the twenty-fourth day of the sixth
month, in the second year of the
King Darius.

On the seventeenth, of the first 2
month the command of the EVER-
LIVING came by means of Hagai the
Preacher, to say;—

“Speak now to Zerubabel-ben- 2
Shalathiel, Governor of Judah, and
Joshua-ben-Jhozadak the High Priest,
and the fragments of the People, and
ask;—

“Who remains amongst you who 3
saw this house in its former splendour?
—And how does it look now? Is it
not as nothing in your sight?—So 4
now support Zerubabel,” says the
EVER-LIVING, “and support Joshua-
ben-Jhozadak the High Priest, and
support all the people of the country,”
says the EVER-LIVING, “and work,
for I am with you,” says the LORD OF
HOSTS,—“with the promise I made
to you on bringing you out from the
Mitzeraim. My Spirit also stands 5
amongst you. Fear not!”—For thus 6
says the LORD OF HOSTS;

Song of the Restoration.

- "Once again, in a little while I will shake the Heavens,
And the Earth, and Sea, and the Desert,
And when I shake all the Nations,
The Desired of All Nations will come,
And I will fill this House with splendour,"
Declares the LORD OF HOSTS. 7
- "The silver is Mine, and the Gold is Mine,"
Declares the LORD OF HOSTS, 8
- "And the splendour of the House be more,
Of this, the last, than was the first!"
Declares the LORD OF HOSTS, 9
- "And from this Place I will give Peace,"
Declares the LORD OF HOSTS!

A Question of Right and Wrong.

- 10 On the fourteenth, of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the command of the EVER-LIVING came by the means of Hagai the Preacher to say;—
- 11 Thus says the LORD OF HOSTS,
"Ask the Priests about the Law,
12 and say, 'If a man carries consecrated food in the skirts of his robe, and his robe touches, either pottage or wine, or oil, or any kind of provisions,—will they become consecrated?'"
And the Priests answered and said "No!"
- 13 Then Hagai asked, "If a defiled person touches any of those will they become defiled?"
The Priests replied, "They would be defiled."
- 14 Then Hagai answered and exclaimed,
"So is this Nation, and so is this People, before Me," says the EVER-LIVING, "and so is all the work of their hands; and what they present is defiled!—Therefore now reflect in your hearts from this day and forwards;—Before the time when a stone was turned upon a stone to rebuild the House of the Temple of the EVER-LIVING,—When you used to go to a heap for twenty, there were only ten; going to the cellar for fifty drafts, there were only twenty!—
17 Because I struck you with blight, and

mildew, and hail, on all the work of your hands,—yet you came not to Me," says the EVER-LIVING.

"Reflect in your hearts,—from this 18 day and forwards—from the twenty-fourth day of the month;—from the day when you laid the foundation of the Temple of the EVER-LIVING;—reflect in your hearts.—The grain is 19 not at present in the granary, or at present the vine, and fig, and pomegranate, and olive trees have not borne;—from this day I will bless you!"

A Message to Zerubabel.

The command of the LORD came a 20 second time to Hagai, on the twenty-fourth of the month to say;—

"Speak to Zerubabel the governor 21 of Judah and say;—'I will shake the 22 Heavens and the Earth, and will overthrow the Throne of Kingdoms, and destroy the strength of the Kingdoms, of the Heathen; and overturn the Charioteer and his chariot, and throw down the horsemen and charioteers every one by the sword of his messmate!'

"In that day," says the LORD OF 23 HOSTS, "I will take Zerubabel-ben-Shalathiel, My servant," the EVER-LIVING declares, "and make you like a seal-ring, for I have chosen you," says the EVER-LIVING.

END OF THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET HAGAI.