

BE STRONG & WORK |
HAGGAI 2:1-9

We've previously talked about unfinished business. It always seems like it is easier to start a project than finish it. There is an excitement. We have a picture in our mind as to how it's going to turn out. We begin with the best of intentions. Then things begin to get difficult. What we are seeing in reality does not match what we saw in our mind. We want to quit. However, when we are doing the work God desires of us, quitting is not an option. We cannot allow a comparison of what we knew in the past stop us from following God in the present. What makes all the difference is that God encourages us and assures us that trusting Him and doing His work is more important than what we think of the results. Success is ultimately defined not by practical results, but by obedience to God. What can we learn about comparison and encouragement from our passage today?

1. We cannot allow a preoccupation with the _____ and a focus on the _____ _____ to prevent us from doing what God has for us _____ (2:1-3)

2. As we trust God, He encourages us: in the _____ with _____, in the _____ as he _____ us of victories, and in the _____ with the promise of our _____ _____ (2:4-10).