

**August 29, 2021**  
*The Upward Challenge: Haggai*  
Haggai 1:1-2  
*The Challenge of Reluctance*

**An introduction to Haggai and his world.**

**Providence: who God is (v. 1)**

*“In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest.” (Haggai 1:1).*

*“I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me”  
(Psalm 57:2).*

*“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many sisters and brothers” (Romans 8:28-29).*

God is working His purpose out,  
as year succeeds to year;  
God is working His purpose out,  
and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time,  
the time that shall surely be:  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
as the waters cover the sea.  
From the Hymn, “God is Working His Purpose Out”  
(Arthur Campbell Ainger, 1894).

**Providence: who we are (v. 2)**

*“Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD” (Haggai 1:2).*

*“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up” (Galatians 6:9).*

