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The Preaching that Produces Repentance
Ezra 5:1-2, Haggai 1:1 to 2:9 and Zechariah 7:1 to 8:23



Ezra 5:1-2 begins with a summary statement of the contribution of **Haggai** and **Zechariah** to the construction of **the Temple**. It is an example of how preaching the word of **God** produces acts of repentance among the people of **ADONAI**. The work of rebuilding would last another four years; no sooner will the zeal to rebuild be seen than the Persians will have nervousness of their own, which the rest of **Ezra 5** will recount and resolve. For now, the motivation to restart the work that is the focus, to which **Haggai** and **Zechariah** contributed substantially. It would be difficult to imagine two more contrasting prophets than **Haggai** and **Zechariah**; the one a straight-talker, and the other a visionary. It will be helpful for us to now take some time to reflect on the ministries of these two prophets in the year **520 BC**.[84]