**HAGGAI**

Haggai is a post exilic prophet. Which means he prophesied after the 70 year captivity and was in Jerusalem. He prophesied at the same time as Zechariah. The people of Israel had returned to Jerusalem but had neglected building the house of the Lord. Haggai and Zechariah prophesied to them to focus on the building of the Temple. Ezra mentions both in Ezra 5:2.

**Chapter 2**

Verses 12-14: Evil was contagious. To this point, the people failed to rebuild the temple. This failure has defiled everything Israel has- the good, money, cross, wine, etc.

**Chapter 3**

Verse 23: Signet Ring: In Jeremiah 22:24, king Jehoiakim is told if he was a signet ring of God he would be pulled off. Jeremiah 22:24: “As I live, declares the Lord, though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet ring on my right hand, yet I would tear you off **25**and give you into the hand of those who seek your life, into the hand of those of whom you are afraid, even into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and into the hand of the Chaldeans.

 Jehoiakim’s grandson is Zerubbabel and returns to Jerusalem and was faithful to God. The signet ring is back on God’s hand. In other words, God had pulled away from His people and now He is back with them following their punishment and captivity. (NIV Study Bible Note).