

immediate context is as follows: (39:25-29)

Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name. After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid (A.S.V.- when they shall dwell securely in their land, and none shall make them afraid). When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations. Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them anymore there (A.S.V.- and have gathered them unto their own land, and I will leave none of them any more there.) Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.

This passage predicts the restoration of Israel to her own land, and the turning of the face of God in blessing once more toward her. The problem exegetically comes in the perfect tense in the latter half of verse 29 - "I have poured out my Spirit." (שֵׁפַחְתִּי אֶת־רוּחִי). Is this an instance of the prophetic perfect? Or does this refer to a state already in existence at the time of the prediction? Since there is no scriptural evidence to support the idea of a general outpouring of God's Spirit upon Israel before the time of this prediction, it would seem reasonable to understand it, in context, as a prediction of what God will do in the future.

Haggai 2:5

The immediate context of this scripture is as follows: (2:1-5)

In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the Lord by the prophet Haggai, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying,