

The Book of Ezra

Study #12

(Ezra 7:1-10)

Ezra The Man

I. Ezra - His Ancestry (1-5)

Seraiah _____

Hilkiah _____

II. Ezra - His Action (6A, 7-9)

III. Ezra - His Advancement (6)

A. The Investment in God's Word (6B, 6C)

1. The Study of the Word (6B)

2. The Source of the Word (6C; 1 Thes. 2:13)

B. The Initiative in God's Work (6D, 6A)

C. The Intervention of God's Will (6E; Ps. 37:28; Josh. 21:45)

IV. Ezra - His Affection (10)

A. Learning the Word (10A; Josh. 1:8)

B. Living the Word (10B; Acts 1:1)

C. Leading in the Word (10C; Mt. 9:35; Acts 15:35)

Conclusion:

1. We must be vigilant in the transmission of our faith.

Deut. 6:12 Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

2. The assurance of the trustworthiness of Scripture.

2 Tim. 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

3. The importance of Bible study!

2 Tim. 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

4. The necessity of the Word in the ministry of the Church.

2 Tim. 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

5. The blessings of God upon those who study the Word.

Psalms 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

6. The importance of action.

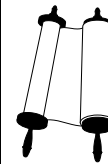
James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

7. The providence of God in the lives of His people.

Matthew 10:29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. [30] But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. [31] Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

EZRA: OUTLINE

- I. Rebuilding the Place of God (Chapters 1-6)
(The Ministry of Zerubbabel)
 - A. The Return (Chapters 1-2)
 - B. The Rebuilding (Chapters 3-6)
 1. The Restoration of Worship (3:1-7)
 2. The Rebuilding of the Temple (3:8-6:22)
 - a. Commenced (3:8-13)
 - b. Contested (4:1-6:12)
 - 1) The Opposition (Ch. 4)
 - 2) The Outcry (Ch. 5)
 - 3) The Outcome (Darius' letter) (6:1-12)
 - c. Completed (6:13-22)
- II. Reviving the People of God (Chapters 7-10)
(The Ministry of Ezra)
 - A. The Trip (Chapters 7-8)
 1. Ezra's Return - Preparations (Ch. 7)
 - a. The Description (A Summary) (7:1-10)
 - b. The Decree (7:11-26)
 - c. The Doxology (7:27-28)



SCRIBES

Persons trained in writing skills and used to record events and decisions (Jer. 36:26; 1 Chron. 24:6; Esth. 3:12). During the Exile in Babylon educated scribes apparently became the experts in God's written word, copying, preserving, and teaching it. Ezra was a scribe in this sense of expert in teaching God's word (Ezra 7:6). A professional group of such scribes developed by New Testament times, most being Pharisees (Mark 2:16). They interpreted the law, taught it to disciples, and were experts in cases where people were accused of breaking the law of Moses. They led in plans to kill Jesus (Luke 19:47) and heard His stern rebuke (Matt. 23). (*Holman Bible Dictionary*)

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son (6:1) - Heb., *ben*. This is the general term for a relative. It can be used for son, grandson, great grandson, and even nephew.

ready (6:6) - Skillful, diligent.

Nethinims (6:7) - Temple servants under the Levites, perhaps descended from the Gibeonites of Joshua's day.

statutes (6:10) - Decreed laws.

judgments (6:10) - Codified judicial decisions.