Allen Temple Baptist Church Sunday School Live

Winter Quarter Theme: Justice, Law, History Unit 3: "Justice and Adversity"

Sunday February 13, 2022 Ezra Seeks Gods' Law

Text: Ezra 7: 1-10, 23 - 26

Read Ezra: 7: 1-26

Instructor: Michael McCants

KEY VERSE EZRA 7:10 NIV

¹⁰ For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

LESSON CONTEXT

- 1. Israel has returned to Jerusalem after captivity to Babylon. (King Cyrus)
- 2. Ezra: Royal Priest and scribe, also descendant of Aaron(Moses) brother was appointed by God to restore their full focus to worshipping GOD as commanded.

Questions to Review

- 1. What example did Ezra model as a Priest and Scribe?
- 2. How did God reward Ezra in this assignment?
- 3. What can we learn about God's provision to his servants from this lesson?

Ezra 7: 1-3 NIV

3, After these things, during the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah, ² the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub, ³ the son of Amariah, the son of Azariah, the son of Meraioth.

Ezra 7:4-5 NIV

⁴ the son of Zerahiah, the son of Uzzi, the son of Bukki, ⁵ the son of Abishua, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest.

Ezra 7:6 NIV

this Ezra came up from Babylon. He was a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given. The king had granted him everything he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was on him.

Ezra 7:7 NIV

Some of the Israelites, including priests, Levites, musicians, gatekeepers and temple servants, also came up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of King Artaxerxes.

Ezra 7:8 NIV

8, Ezra arrived in Jerusalem in the fifth month of the seventh year of the king.

Ezra 7:9 NIV

9. He had begun his journey from Babylon on the first day of the first month, and he arrived in Jerusalem on the first day of the fifth month, for the gracious hand of his God was on him.

Ezra 7:10 NIV

10, Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

EZRA 7:23 NIV

²³ Whatever the God of heaven has prescribed, let it be done with diligence for the temple of the God of heaven. Why should his wrath fall on the realm of the king and of his sons?

Ezra 7:24 NIV

24, You are also to know that you have no authority to impose taxes, tribute or duty on any of the priests, Levites, musicians, gatekeepers, temple servants or other workers at this house of God.

Ezra 7:25 NIV

25, And you, Ezra, in accordance with the wisdom of your God, which you possess, appoint magistrates and judges to administer justice to all the people of Trans-Euphrates—all who know the laws of your God. And you are to teach any who do not know them.

Ezra 7:26 NIV

26. Whoever does not obey the law of your God and the law of the king must surely be punished by death, banishment, confiscation of property, or imprisonment.

QUESTIONS TO REVIEW

1. What type of Character did Ezra model?

2. How did God reward Ezra in this assignment?

3. What can we learn about God's provision from this lesson?

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. Ezra's devotion to God's word, resulted in God granting Ezra great favor.
- 2. God can use anyone to accomplish his will.
- 3. It is important for all Christians to be devoted students and living witnesses of God's Word!

APPLICATION FOR LIFE

- What type of leaders and examples of Christ should we be daily?
- Devotion to God benefits us and is not optional.
- How am I spiritually contributing to the Kingdom of God, my family, community, church and world?
- Never underestimate The Power of God!

LESSON SUMMARY

God used Ezra to restore the significance of worship to the second generation of Israelites in Jerusalem and gave Ezra favor on his assignment It was imperative that the focus in the temple of God is GOD. Today we are so distracted in every direction, that if we are not intentional to place our **TOTAL** focus on God in and outside of the temple of worship we are guilty of giving God less of us than He deserves. In return for our devotion & commitment, God always blesses us beyond our imagination.