



A Guided Tour of the Bible: Discovering God in

Ezra

Background

- Ezra and Nehemiah were originally one book in the Hebrew Old Testament.
- The author is unknown, though many have speculated that Ezra wrote it.
- This book recounts two returns: The return led by Zerubbabel in 538 BC and the return led by Ezra in 458 BC. The events of Ezra span over eighty years.
- Chapters 1-6 focus on the rebuilding of the Temple under Zerubbabel. Chapters 7-10 focus on the spiritual reformation led by Ezra.
- The events in Esther, Haggai, and Zechariah take place during the same historical period.

Roadmap

1. God Forms a Courageous People (1-6)

A. The Courage to Return (1-2)

B. The Courage to Rebuild (3-6)

2. God Forms a Consecrated People (7-10)

A. Return (7-8)

B. Relapse (9:1-3)

C. Reformation (9:4-10:44)

Landmark

The theme of Ezra is "Reformation for the Remnant." Through Zerubbabel and Ezra, God brings a reformation of courage and consecration to His people.

Must See

Ezra

- Like Christ, Ezra was a priest who loved, studied, and taught God's Word. He wept over the people's sin and interceded for their forgiveness.

Joshua

- The High Priest who oversaw the reconstruction of the Temple. His name means, "Jehovah is salvation."

Takeaway

Ezra 7:6, 10

Q: "Ezra, how can I be an instrument of reformation and revival in my home, church, and city?"

A: Set your heart to study, practice, and pass on God's Word.