

Ezra

Read: Ezra 1; 3-4:5, 24; 5-6; 4:6-23; 7; 9-10:17

What Kings of Persia are mentioned in the book of Ezra and in what order did they reign?

What does Cyrus decree about the Israelites and why? (Ezra 1)

What specific prophecy does this fulfill?

What else does Cyrus give the Israelites to take back to Jerusalem?

What do the Jews do when they first gather in Jerusalem (Ezra 3)?

How do the people react when the foundation of the temple is first laid?

During the days of Cyrus and Darius what do the enemies of the Israel do to discourage them and how do the Israelites react (Ezra 4:1-5, 24)?

Why do the Israelites start building the temple again in Ezra 5?

How to the people of the region react to the Israelites beginning this work again?

Thoroughly summarize the decree of Darius concerning the temple in Ezra 6

When was the temple completed?

What are some ways that we know Ezra 4:6-23 does not fit chronologically with the verses around it?

Why would this section be inserted here instead of placed chronologically?

What decree does Artaxerxes make in Ezra 7 and how does this contrast with Ezra 4:17-22?

What did Ezra prepare himself for in 7:10 and how can we apply this to our lives today?

What sins of the people are brought to Ezra's attention in chapter 9 and how does he react?

What does Ezra command the people to do to repent of this sin (Ezra 10)?

What are some lessons we can apply to our own lives from Ezra 9-10?