

EZRA – NEHEMIAH: LESSON THREE

I. RETURN UNDER EZRA (7-8)

A. Genealogy of Ezra (7:1-5)

B. Facts of journey from Babylon to Jerusalem (7:6-10)

1. God's hand of blessing upon Ezra, the ready scribe (v. 6)
2. Six classes of people on journey (v.7)
3. Dates (v. 8-9)
 - a. Seventh year of Artaxerxes
 - b. Leave Babylon: first day of first month
 - c. Arrive in Jerusalem: first day of fifth month
4. Ezra prepared (v. 10)

C. Artaxerxes' decree for helping Ezra in Jerusalem (7:11-26)

D. Ezra's thanksgiving for God's hand in the King's generosity (7:27-28)

E. Genealogy of the chief men who went with Ezra to Jerusalem (8:15-31)

F. Circumstances of the journey from Babylon to Jerusalem (8:15-31)

1. Ezra's urgent call at the river for Levites to make trip (v. 15-20)
2. Ezra declares fast at river of Ahava to ask for God's protection during the trip (v. 21-23).
3. Ezra assigns priests to watch over the gifts of gold, silver and vessels until they present them in the house of God in Jerusalem (v. 24-31).

G. After three days rest in Jerusalem, the more pressing commissions executed (8:32-36).

1. Gifts weighed in house of God (v. 32-34)
2. Burnt offerings- sin offering (v. 35)
3. King's order given to Persian rulers that blesses Israel (v. 36).

QUESTIONS:

1. Ezra traces his family back to _____.
2. In verses 6-10, what **four characteristics** describe the life of Ezra?

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3. Ezra made request of the king to go to Jerusalem. (T) (F)
4. Who is the king of Persia at the time of Ezra's return to Jerusalem?
5. How long did the trip take for Ezra and his group to travel from Babylon to Jerusalem?
6. The Persian king, in his letter, recognized Jehovah as the _____ of _____.
7. From whom had the silver, gold and vessels been gathered?
8. Why was the Persian king so willingly to provide the house of God with abundant provisions?
9. All connected with the service in the house of God were exempted from taxes to the king. (T) (F)
10. The king authorized Ezra to appoint _____ in Jerusalem.
11. God put in the Persian king's heart the desire to _____ the house of the Lord in Jerusalem.
12. How many males went up with Ezra to Jerusalem?
13. At the river of Ahava, what did Ezra see that he did not have?
14. At the river of Ahava, why did Ezra proclaim a fast?
15. At the river of Ahava, Ezra charged twelve priests with what responsibility?
16. How long were Ezra and his group encamped at the river of Ahava?
17. What three principle things did Ezra and his people do after three days in Jerusalem?