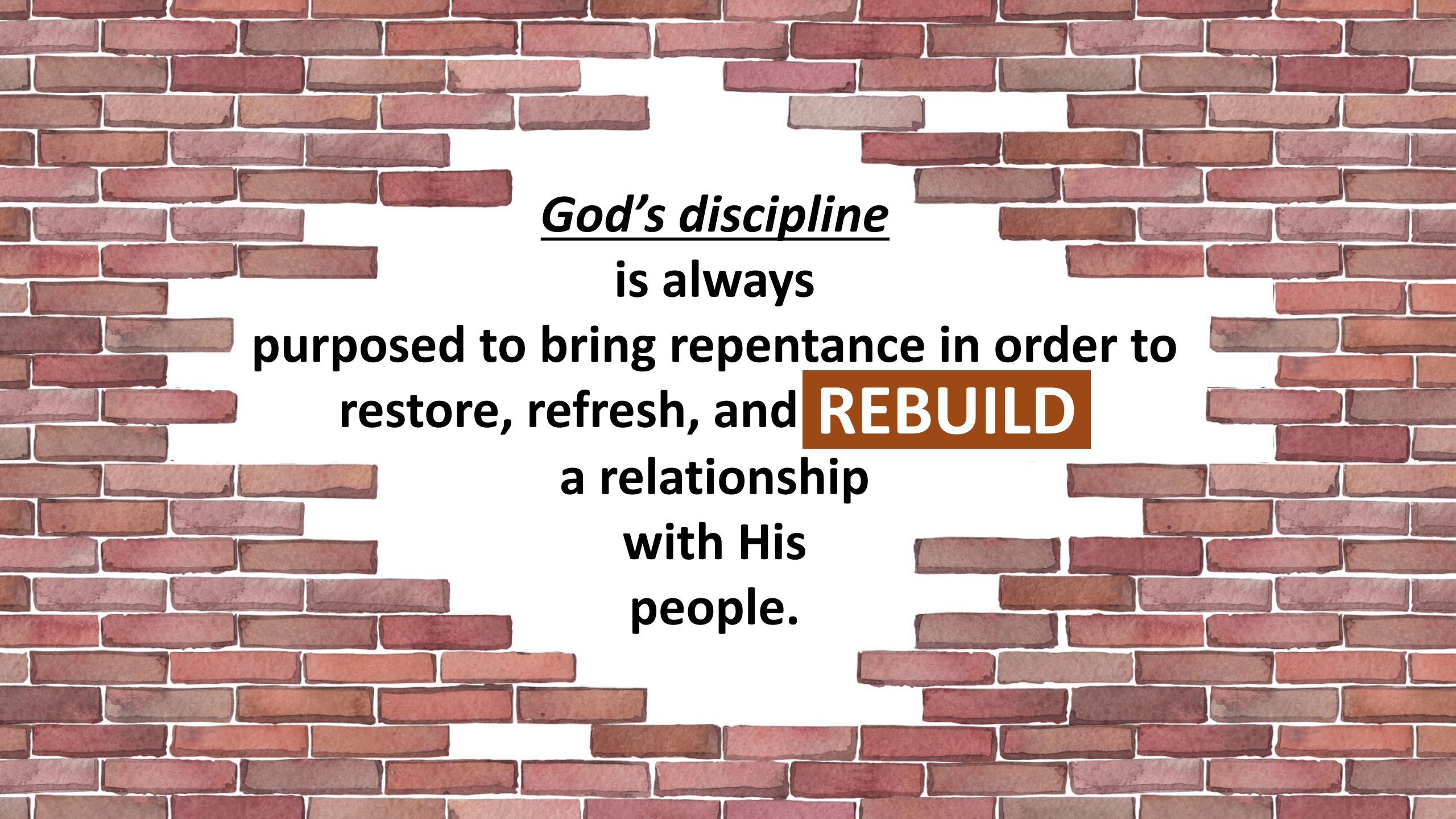




# REBUILD

a study of Ezra and Nehemiah



*God's discipline*  
is always  
purposed to bring repentance in order to  
restore, refresh, and **REBUILD**  
a relationship  
with His  
people.

## Hebrews 12:1-14

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses

**Recognize that God's character is that of being a Father...**

**...who disciplines His children out of love for them...**

**...in order to mold them and mature them...**

**...with a maturity that radiates God's holiness...**

**...and empowers His people to be strong and courageous  
while being tenderized by a heart of peace.**

## Hebrews 12:1-14


1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses

**Recognize that God's character is that of being a Father...**

**...who disciplines His children out of love for them...**

**...in order to mold them and mature them...**

**...with a maturity that radiates God's holiness...**

**...and empowers His people to be strong and courageous  
while being tenderized by a  heart of peace.**

# REBUILD

## Chronology of Ezra and Nehemiah

Cyrus	Darius	Xerxes I	Artaxerxes
1st Return under <b>Zerubbabel</b> (Temple)	Events of the book of Esther	2 <sup>nd</sup> Return under <b>Ezra</b> (People)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Return under <b>Nehemiah</b> (Wall)
<b>Ezra 1-6</b>	Book of Esther	<b>Ezra 7-10</b>	<b>Book of Nehemiah</b>
<b>538-515 B.C.</b>	475 B.C.	<b>458-457 B. C.</b>	<b>445-430 B.C.</b>
<b>Zechariah Haggai</b>		<b>Malachi</b>	

# REBUILD

## Chronology of Ezra and Nehemiah

Cyrus	Darius	Xerxes I	Artaxerxes
1st Return under Zerubbabel (Temple)	Events of the book of Esther	2 <sup>nd</sup> Return under Ezra (People)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Return under Nehemiah (Wall)
Ezra 1-6	Book of Esther	Ezra 7-10	Book of Nehemiah
538-515 B.C.	475 B.C.	458-457 B. C.	445-430 B.C.
Zechariah Haggai		Malachi	

# REBUILD

## Chronology of Ezra and Nehemiah

Cyrus	Darius	Xerxes	Artaxerxes
1st Return under <b>Zerubbabel</b> (Temple)	Events of the book of Esther	2 <sup>nd</sup> Return under <b>Ezra</b> (People)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Return under <b>Nehemiah</b> (Wall)
<b>Ezra 1-6</b>	Book of Esther	<b>Ezra 7-10</b>	<b>Book of Nehemiah</b>
<b>538-515 B.C.</b>	475 B.C.	<b>458-457 B. C.</b>	<b>445-430 B.C.</b>
<b>Zechariah Haggai</b>		<b>Malachi</b>	



**REBUILD**

Ezra chapters 7-8

***God's Word***

***Transforms People***



**God and His Word, His truth, His blueprint, and His will  
are all magnificently beautiful and powerful  
to transform our lives,  
and to make us people of...**

- **Community**
- **Prayer**
- **Integrity**
- **Worship**
- **Benevolence**



**REBUILD**

# Ezra chapters 9-10



**REBUILD**

Ezra chapters 9-10

***God wants our  
unhindered devotion.***

**REBUILD**

*What are you  
fully devoted to?*



**REBUILD**

*To what or to whom  
do you offer  
your best and your most?*



**REBUILD**

*What dilutes your  
commitment to the things  
that are most important  
to you?*



**REBUILD**

*What dilutes your  
commitment and devotion  
to God Himself?*

# REBUILD

***The marriage relationship  
can either have the greatest impact  
or the most detrimental impact  
on your devotion to God.***



# REBUILD

*The marriage relationship  
**can** either have the greatest impact  
or the most detrimental impact  
on your devotion to God.*

## II Corinthians 6:14-18

**14** Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.

-For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

-Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

**15** -What accord has Christ with Belial?

-Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

**16** -What agreement has the temple of God with idols?

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**17** Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them,  
says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,

**18** and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me,  
says the Lord Almighty." *(cited from Leviticus 26:12)*

## II Corinthians 6:14-18

**14** Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.

-For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

-Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

**15** -What accord has Christ with Belial?

-Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

**16** -What agreement has the temple of God with idols?

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**17** Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them,  
says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,

**18** and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me,  
says the Lord Almighty." *(cited from Leviticus 26:12)*

## II Corinthians 6:14-18

**14** **Do not be unequally yoked** with unbelievers.

-For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

-Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

**15** -What accord has Christ with Belial?

-Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

**16** -What agreement has the temple of God with idols?

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**17** Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them,  
says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,

**18** and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me,  
says the Lord Almighty." *(cited from Leviticus 26:12)*

## II Corinthians 6:14-18

14 **Do not be unequally yoked** with unbelievers.

-For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

-Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

15 -What accord has Christ with Belial?

-Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

16 -What agreement has the temple of God with idols?

For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

***"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,  
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.***

17 ***Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them,***

***says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,***

18 ***and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to***

***me,*** ***says the Lord Almighty."*** (cited from Leviticus 26:12)

## II Corinthians 6:14-18

14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.

-For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

-Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

Do not make unbreakable commitments with people whose loyalty is to another ***‘king’***.

18  
me,

*therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” (cited from Leviticus 26:12)*

## Ezra 9

- 1** After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said,  
*"The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.*
- 2** *For they have taken some of their daughters to be wives for themselves and for their sons, so that the holy race has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands. And in this faithlessness the hand of the officials and chief men has been foremost."*
- 3** As soon as I heard this, I tore my garment and my cloak and pulled hair from my head and beard and sat appalled.
- 4** Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, gathered around me while I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice.

## Ezra 9

- 1** After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said,  
*"The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.*
- 2** *For they have taken some of their daughters to be wives for themselves and for their sons, so that the holy race has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands. **And in this faithlessness the hand of the officials and chief men has been foremost.**"*
- 3** As soon as I heard this, I tore my garment and my cloak and pulled hair from my head and beard and sat appalled.
- 4** Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, gathered around me while I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice.



5 And at the evening sacrifice I rose from my fasting, with my garment and my cloak torn,  
and fell upon my knees and spread out my hands to the LORD my God,

6 saying:

"O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to You,  
my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads,  
and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.

7 From the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt.  
And for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests have been given into  
the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity,  
to plundering, and to utter shame, as it is today.

8 But now for a brief moment favor has been shown by the LORD our God,  
to leave us a remnant and to give us a secure hold within His holy place,  
that our God may brighten our eyes and grant us a little reviving in our  
slavery.

5 And at the evening sacrifice I rose from my fasting, with my garment and my cloak torn,  
and fell upon my knees and spread out my hands to the LORD my God,  
6 saying:

"O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to You,  
my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads,  
and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.

7 From the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt.  
And for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests have been given into  
the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity,  
to plundering, and to utter shame, as it is today.

8 But now for a brief moment favor has been shown by the LORD our God,  
to leave us a remnant and to give us a secure hold within His holy place,  
that our God may brighten our eyes and grant us a little reviving in our  
slavery.

9

For we are slaves. Yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery, but has extended to us His steadfast love before the kings of Persia, to grant us some reviving to set up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us protection in Judea and Jerusalem.

10

"And now, O our God, what shall we say after this?

For we have forsaken your commandments,

11

which you commanded by your servants the prophets, saying,

*'The land that you are entering, to take possession of it, is a land impure with the impurity of the peoples of the lands, with their abominations that have filled it from end to end with their uncleanness.'*

12

*'Therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, neither take their daughters for your sons, and never seek their peace or prosperity, that you may be strong and eat the good of the land and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.'*

9

For we are slaves. Yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery, but has extended to us His steadfast love before the kings of Persia, to grant us some reviving to set up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us protection in Judea and Jerusalem.

10

"And now, O our God, what shall we say after this?

11

For we have forsaken your commandments, which you commanded by your servants the prophets, saying,

*'The land that you are entering, to take possession of it, is a land impure with the impurity of the peoples of the lands, with their abominations that have filled it from end to end with their uncleanness.*

**Deuteronomy**

**7, 11, 23**

---

12

**II Kings 21**

---

**Isaiah 1**

*Therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, neither take their daughters for your sons, and never seek their peace or prosperity, that you may be strong and eat the good of the land and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.'*

13

And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt,

14

seeing that you, our God, have punished us less than our iniquities deserved and have given us such a remnant as this, shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations?

15

Would you not be angry with us until you consumed us, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape?

O LORD, the God of Israel, you are just, for we are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today.

Behold, we are before you in our guilt, for none can stand before you because of this."

13

And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt,

14

seeing that you, our God, have punished us **less than our iniquities deserved** and have given us such a remnant as this, shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations?

15

Would you not be angry with us until you consumed us, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape?

O LORD, the God of Israel, you are just, for we are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today.

Behold, we are before you in our guilt, for none can stand before you because of this."

13

And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt,

14

seeing that you, our God, have punished us **less than our iniquities deserved** and have given us such a remnant as this, shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the people who practice these abominations? Would you have us stay with us until you consumed us.

15

**Mercy:**

*not getting what we do deserve*

13

And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt,

14

seeing that you, our God, have punished us **less than our iniquities deserved** and have given us such a remnant as this, shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the people who practice these abominations? Would you have us live with us until you consumed us.

15

**Mercy:**

*not getting what we do deserve*

**Grace:**

*getting what we do not deserve*



13

And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt,

14

seeing that you, our God, have punished us **less than our iniquities deserved** and have given us such a remnant as this, shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations?

15

Would you not be angry with us until you consumed us, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape?

O LORD, the God of Israel, you are just, for we are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today.

Behold, we are before you in our guilt, for none can stand before you because of this."

# Ezra 10

- 1 While Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, a very great assembly of men, women, and children, gathered to him out of Israel, for the people wept bitterly.
- 2 And Shecaniah the son of Jehiel, of the sons of Elam, addressed Ezra:  
*"We have broken faith with our God and have married foreign women from the peoples of the land, but even now there is hope for Israel in spite of this.*
- 3 *Therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all these wives and their children, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God, and let it be done according to the Law.*
- 4 *Arise, for it is your task, and we are with you; be strong and do it."*
- 5 Then Ezra arose and made the leading priests and Levites and all Israel take oath that they would do as had been said. So they took the oath.

- 6** Then Ezra withdrew from before the house of God and went to the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib, where he spent the night, neither eating bread nor drinking water, for he was mourning over the faithlessness of the exiles.
- 7** And a proclamation was made throughout Judah and Jerusalem to all the returned exiles that they should assemble at Jerusalem,
- 8** and that if anyone did not come within three days, by order of the officials and the elders all his property should be forfeited, and he himself banned from the congregation of the exiles.
- 9** Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin assembled at Jerusalem within the three days. It was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month. And all the people sat in the open square before the house of God, trembling because of this matter and because of the heavy rain.

**10** And Ezra the priest stood up and said to them,

*"You have broken faith and married foreign women,  
and so increased the guilt of Israel.*

**11** *Now then make confession to the LORD,  
the God of your fathers and do His will.*

*Separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign  
wives."*

**12** Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice,

*"It is so; we must do as you have said.*

**13** *But the people are many, and it is a time of heavy rain; we cannot stand in  
the open. Nor is this a task for one day or for two, for we have greatly  
transgressed in this matter.*

**14** *Let our officials stand for the whole assembly. Let all in our cities who  
have taken foreign wives come at appointed times,  
and with them the elders and judges of every city,  
until the fierce wrath of our God over this matter is turned away from  
us."*

**15** Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahzeiah the son of Tikvah opposed this, and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite supported them.

**16** Then the returned exiles did so.

Ezra the priest selected men, heads of fathers' houses, according to their fathers' houses, each of them designated by name.

**17** On the first day of the tenth month, they sat down to examine the matter; and by the first day of the first month they had come to the end of all the men who had married foreign women.

**18** Now there were found some of the sons of the priests who had married foreign women: Maaseiah, Eliezer, Jarib, and Gedaliah, some of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozadak and his brothers.

**19** They pledged themselves to put away their wives, and their guilt offering was a ram of the flock for their guilt.

- 20 Of the sons of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah.
- 21 Of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uziah.
- 22 Of the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad, and Elasah.
- 23 Of the Levites: Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (that is, Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.
- 24 Of the singers: Eliashib. Of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem, and Uri.
- 25 And of Israel: of the sons of Parosh: Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, Eleazar, Hashabiah, and Benaiah.
- 26 Of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and Elijah.
- 27 Of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad, and Aziza.
- 28 Of the sons of Bebai were Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.
- 29 Of the sons of Bani were Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and Jeremoth.
- 30 Of the sons of Pahath-moab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui, and Manasseh.
- 31 Of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah, Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,  
32 Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.
- 33 Of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.
- 34 Of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram, Uel,  
35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi,  
36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,  
37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, Jaasu.
- 38 Of the sons of Binnui: Shimei,  
39 Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiah,  
40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,  
41 Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah,  
42 Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.
- 43 Of the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jaddai, Joel, and Benaiah.

20 Of the sons of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah.  
21 Of the sons of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uziah.  
22 Of the sons of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad, and Elasah.  
23 Of the Levites: Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (that is, Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.  
24 Of the singers: Eliashib. Of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem, and Uri.  
25 And of Israel: of the sons of Parosh: Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, Eleazar, Hashabiah, and Benaiah.  
26 Of the sons of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and Elijah.  
27 Of the sons of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad, and Aziza.  
28 Of the sons of Bebai were Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai.  
29 Of the sons of Bani were Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and Jeremoth.  
30 Of the sons of Pahath-moab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui, and Manasseh.  
31 Of the sons of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah, Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon,  
32 Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah.  
33 Of the sons of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei.  
34 Of the sons of Bani: Maadai, Amram, Uel,  
35 Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi,  
36 Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib,  
37 Mattaniah, Mattenai, Jaasu.  
38 Of the sons of Binnui: Shimei,  
39 Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiah,  
40 Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai,  
41 Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah,  
42 Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph.  
43 Of the sons of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jaddai, Joel, and Benaiah.

**44** All these had married foreign women,  
and some of the women had even borne children.

*So...therefore...what now?*



*So...therefore...what now?*

*God wants our  
unhindered devotion.*

*So...therefore...what now?*

*God wants our  
unhindered devotion.*

*What is diluting your commitment and  
devotion to God Himself?*

*So...therefore...what now?*

Do not make  
unbreakable commitments  
with people whose loyalty  
is to another '*king*'.

*So...therefore...what now?*

*The sanctity of marriage  
is of profound importance  
and of immeasurable impact  
in relation to your walk with God.*