

REBUILDING

EZRA – SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

EZRA 7:7-10 (ESV)

A. God's People Return Home: 3 Groups

1. Zerubbabel (Temple)
2. Ezra (Spiritual Renewal)
3. Nehemiah (Jerusalem)

B. About Ezra

C. His Work

1. Condemned the mixed marriages of Israel (religious)
2. Re-implemented and taught God's Word to the people
3. Restored true worship
4. Renewed celebration of the Jewish festivals
5. Emphasized the importance of obedience to God
6. Concerned with how other nations viewed God and His people

D. Lessons We Learn

1. God's ways are mysterious
2. Sin always brings sorrow and disappointment
3. The power of Godly leadership
4. God stirs the hearts of His people
5. There is power in genuine repentance
6. God's promises are sure
7. Pay close attention to the essentials (Word of God, worship, obedience)