

Outline:

I. First Return under Zerubbabel (1-6)

- A. Proclamation of Cyrus (1)
- B. Registration of the people (2)
- C. Rebuilding the temple (3)
- D. The building ceases (4)
- E. Construction renewed (5)
- F. Temple completed and dedicated (6)

II. The Second Return under Ezra (7-10)

- A. To Jerusalem, Ezra's Return (7)
- B. Remnant accompanying Ezra (8)
- C. Ezra Leads a Revival - Sins confessed (9)
- D. Ezra cleanses the nation (10)

Helpful Online Sources:

Precept Austin - Amazing online resource with many commentaries and helps: including David Guzik, Chuck Smith, John MacArthur, Ray Stedman, C.H. Spurgeon, John Piper and many more!

http://preceptaustin.org/Ezra_commentaries.htm

You Version - with multiple translations. You can get this online or with a mobile device. They even have audio files of the Bible that you can listen to.

<http://www.youversion.com/>

Calvary Roswell - Previous messages and overview studies by Pastor Jim:

<http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/WednesdayBibleStudies/Ezra/Index.htm>

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com
For a digital form of this booklet, an mp3 version of the teaching, videos and slides from the teaching, visit our website at
<http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/index.htm>



Sowing the Word

We are servants
of the
God
of heaven and earth
Ezra 5:11

Ezra 5

January 3 - January 6, 2016

*So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God;
and they gave the sense, and
helped them to understand the reading.
(Nehemiah 8:8)*

EZRA 5–6

About fifteen years elapse between [4:24](#) and [5:1](#). During that time, God prepared two prophets to renew and strengthen the work. After all, God's Word commenced the project ([Ezra 1:1](#)), so only God's Word could continue it and complete it ([Gal. 3:3](#)). When God wants to get something done, He sends His servants with His Word, for nothing but our unbelief can hinder the power of the Word. Even the pagan king had to bow before the Word of God!

When God's Word is with you and God's eye is upon you ([5:5](#)), your work will prosper ([6:14](#); see also [Josh. 1:8](#); [Ps. 1:1–3](#)). Revival comes when God's people heed God's Word and do what God tells them to do. Read Haggai's four sermons of encouragement and rebuke and see what true "revival preaching" is like. Do those messages speak to you now?

The project began with mingled joy and tears ([3:8–13](#)), but it ended with all the people rejoicing ([6:16–22](#)). The traditional feast took on new joy because of what God had done for His people.

Wiersbe, W. W. (1991). With the Word Bible Commentary ([Ezr 5:1](#)). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

Study Questions for Ezra 5

1. What prophets spoke to the Jews about their work on the temple? What was the result of what was told to them? Who lead the people to do this? What lessons should the leaders in the church today learn?
2. Who questioned the Jews about their work? What temporary decision was made? Whose "eye" was upon the elders of the Jews?
3. To whom did Tattenai send a letter regarding the progress of the work? When questioned, who did the Jews say had given them a decree to build the house of God?
4. How can chapter 5 help you to press on in doing God's work in the face of opposition? What does it mean to you that God is able to use the most powerful people on earth (like Cyrus) to further His purpose?