

February 1, 2015 – Pastor Leif Holmes

Title: Restoring the Temple – Part 1

Text: Ezra 1:1-6, 3:8-11



POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- What is the background of the book of Ezra?
 - What was so miraculous about God “stirring the heart of Cyrus?” (v. 1)
 - Why did God do this? (See Daniel 9:1-3)
 - Would God have stirred Cyrus’ heart if Daniel wasn’t praying? Why or why not?
 - What can we learn from this?
 - What did God do to the hearts of the leaders in Ezra 1:5?
 - Why was this important?
 - What can we learn from this?
- Read Ezra 3:8-11
 - What is the commonality between the following verses?
 - “The work force was made up of **everyone** . . .”
 - “When the **builders** completed the foundation of the Lord’s Temple . . .”
 - “The **priests** put on their robes . . . the **Levites** clashed their cymbals . . .”
 - “**All the people** gave a great shout . . .”
 - How can we apply the concept of *restoring the temple* to our church’s prayer life?
- What might laying a foundation of prayer for our church look like?
 - What is the difference between personal prayer and corporate prayer?
 - Why are both important?
 - Which one are you more comfortable with?
 - You can repair the altar PERSONALLY, but we need to restore the temple TOGETHER
 - What are some practical steps (either mentioned or your own ideas) that we can do to put this into practice?
 - Give at least one “take away” from this lesson that you want to apply to your life.
- Bible verses referenced: Daniel 9:1-3, Psalm 20:7, Proverbs 16:3,
- Action Steps:

“And remember, it is a message to obey, not just to listen to. So don’t fool yourselves.” James 1:22 (The Living Bible)
- Podcasts of today’s message as well as past messages can be found @ www.rochesterlife.org