

Worship of the One True God – Restoration

After God's people had been in exile for 70 years (605- 536 bc) those who desired were allowed to go back to Jerusalem. But they had been a way for a long time, in a strange land and they needed restoration of their worship and of their covenant with God. In the book of Ezra and Nehemiah, over the course of over 90 years, we see the people of God find their way back to Him.

Ezra 3 – First an altar is built, for sacrifice unto the Lord, atonement, thanksgiving, and the Feast of Tabernacles celebrated (remembering what God has done) Then the foundation of the house of the Lord is laid accompanied with great celebration. When we are restored, we come repenting before God, thanking Him, laying the foundation (which is His word in our lives), celebrating, praising and worshiping.

Ezra 6:15 – Temple is completed, 15-22, celebration of Passover, remember God's deliverance.

Ezra 8:21/28 - Ezra goes back to Jerusalem, setting aside those things which are holy unto the Lord for His house and for offering.

Book of Nehemiah

Building the wall of Jerusalem

Neh.8 – The establishing of the Word of God, the basis of covenant

Neh 9 :1-6 Fasting and the Wording, confessing Who God Is

Neh. 9:38 declaring the covenant. – After fasting and prayer, hearing the Word of the Lord, repenting for not abiding by the Word, saying amen to the truth of the Word, the people of God declared their covenant with the Lord. In restoration, after everything, we need to declare again our covenant relationship with the Lord. Make it sure, as this scripture indicates.

Neh. 12:27- 47– The Dedication of the Wall, 2 Choirs – There was a wonderful celebration of praise and worship at the dedication of the completed wall. This was the wall that protected the city and facilitated its defense. It was also the wall that distinguished it as an important city. Important business happened at the gates. It was a wall that announced to the world that God's city, and thus God's people, had been restored. When the walls of our lives in the Lord are rebuilt, it is a cause for great rejoicing and celebration. We should remember to guard the integrity of our walls—they protect our souls. Prayer, fasting and the reading of God's word enables us to maintain our walls and keep them fortified.