

REFORM



Ezra 7-8

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The story so far...

Ch 1-2: Return

Ch 3-4: Rebuild

Ch 5-6: Rejoice

Ch 7-8: Reform

7v1: After these things, during the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia...

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Cyrus: 339-529BC

Cambyses: 529-522BC

Darius: 522-486BC

Xerxes: 486-465BC

Artaxerxes: 465-425BC

1) Ezra – The Hand of God was on him

7v6: ...this Ezra came up from Babylon. He was a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given. The king had granted him everything he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was on him.

1) Ezra – The Hand of God was on him

7v8-9: ...Ezra arrived in Jerusalem in the fifth month of the seventh year of the king. ⁹ He had begun his journey from Babylon on the first day of the first month, and he arrived in Jerusalem on the first day of the fifth month, for the gracious hand of his God was on him.

2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

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He was a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given.

2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

7v10: For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

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- **Studied God's word**

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- **Studied** God's word
- **Practiced** God's word



2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

7v10: For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

- **Studied** God's word
- **Practiced** God's word
- **Taught** God's word

2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

“The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, then walk out the door and deny Him with their lifestyle. This is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable.”

Brennan Manning

2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

Ezra	
Studied	
Observed	
Taught	

2) Ezra – The Word of God was in him

Ezra	Jesus
Studied	Understood perfectly
Observed	Obedied completely
Taught	Taught majestically

3) Ezra – The mission of God was before him

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7v14: You are sent by the king and his seven advisors to enquire about Judah and Jerusalem with regard to the Law of your God, which is in your hand.

3) Ezra – The mission of God was before him

Eph 4v15: Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

3) Ezra – The mission of God was before him

- *Do you enquire of other people?*

3) Ezra – The mission of God was before him

- *Do you enquire of other people?*
- *Do you allow others to enquire of you?*

3) Ezra – The mission of God was before him

- *Do you enquire of other people?*
- *Do you allow others to enquire of you?*



