



Ezra 9-10

REPEAT

REFLECT

Proverbs 26v11: As a dog returns to its vomit, so fools repeat their folly



The story so far...

Ch 1-2: Return

Ch 3-4: Rebuild

Ch 5-6: Rejoice

Ch 7-8: Reform

Ch 9-10: Repeat

1) Do we acknowledge our sin?

9v1: After these things had been done, the leaders came to me and said, ‘The people of Israel, including the priests and the Levites, have not kept themselves separate from the neighbouring peoples with their detestable practices...

1) Do we acknowledge our sin?

9v2: They have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled the holy race with the peoples around them. And the leaders and officials have led the way in this unfaithfulness.'

1) Do we acknowledge our sin?

Deuteronomy 7v3-4: Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, ⁴ for they will turn your children away from following me to serve other gods...

2) Do we mourn our sin?

9v3: When I heard this, I tore my tunic
and cloak, pulled hair from my head and
beard and sat down appalled.

2) Do we mourn our sin?

9v3: When I heard this, I tore my tunic and cloak, pulled hair from my head and beard and sat down appalled.

9v4: Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel gathered round me because of this unfaithfulness of the exiles

2) Do we mourn our sin?

Mt 5v4: Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted

3) Do we confess our sin?

9v5: Then, at the evening sacrifice, I rose from my self-abasement, with my tunic and cloak torn, and fell on my knees with my hands spread out to the LORD my God⁶ and prayed:



3) Do we confess our sin?

9v6: 'I am too ashamed and disgraced, my God, to lift up my face to you, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens...'



3) Do we confess our sin?

Luke 18v13: But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”



3) Do we confess our sin?

9v8: 'But now, for a brief moment, the LORD our God has been gracious in leaving us a remnant and giving us a firm place in his sanctuary, and so our God gives light to our eyes and a little relief in our bondage.

3) Do we confess our sin?

9v14: Shall we then break your commands again and intermarry with the peoples who commit such detestable practices?

Have we not learned??

3) Do we confess our sin?

9v15: LORD, the God of Israel, you are righteous! We are left this day as a remnant. Here we are before you in our guilt, though because of it not one of us can stand in your presence.

To the cross we go...



3) Do we confess our sin?

Psalm 32v9: Do not be like the horse or the mule,

which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
or they will not come to you.

4) Do we repent of our sin?

10v2: Then Shekariah son of Jehiel, one of the descendants of Elam, said to Ezra, 'We have been unfaithful to our God by marrying foreign women from the peoples around us. But in spite of this, there is still hope for Israel.'

4) Do we repent of our sin?

10v3: Now let us make a covenant before our God to send away all these women and their children, in accordance with the counsel of my lord and of those who fear the commands of our God. Let it be done according to the Law.



Proverbs 21v31: The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the LORD.

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- Do we **acknowledge** our sin?
- Do we **mourn** our sin?
- Do we **confess** our sin?
- Do we **repent** of our sin?

