

Ezra — Worksheet 1

Return from Exile & Rebuilding the Temple

Read the passages on the back of this sheet (or use the biblestudy.fyi TTS Bible Player) before you begin. Answer in your own words on the lines provided.

1. What did God stir up King Cyrus of Persia to do, according to Ezra 1:1-2?

2. What were the returning exiles permitted to take with them, according to Ezra 1:4?

3. What happened when the Temple's foundation was laid, according to Ezra 3:10-11?

4. Why do you think both joy and weeping were present at this moment (see Ezra 3:12-13, summarise)?

5. Reflection: How do you relate to the mix of joy and grief described at this rebuilding — is there a 'new start' in your life that carries both feelings?

Scripture for Ezra — Return from Exile & Rebuilding the Temple

King James Version. Flip back to the front to answer the questions.

Ezra 1:1-4

¹Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, ²Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. ³Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. ⁴And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

Ezra 3:10-11

¹⁰And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. ¹¹And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.